Tanong ng Bayan / A24

Mga imbestigasyon ng Kongreso: May silbi ba?

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Kerry campaign energized after debate

■ Magazine / Q1

The woman who spends country's money

JOB Market

700 job vacancies inside

■ News / A2

GSIS's Garcia fights back to expose conspirators

■ Sports / A25

PBA new season blasts off

China holds festival of twins in land of one-child families

HINDI KA NAG-IISA PAG KAMBAL KA!

BEIJING—Beijing saw double on Saturday as the Chinese capital opened its first festival for twins with hundreds of lookalike pairs—a rare sight in a society where strict birth control rules limit most

CHINA/ A8

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

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Name names, bishop told

EDWIN BACASMAS

Palace vows to go after 4 execs linked to jueteng

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Michael Lim Ubac

NAME the national officials on the take from gambling lords, and the government will help prosecute them.

Malacañang yesterday aired this assurance to Pangasinan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, saying it welcomed any information on "jueteng" from him or ordinary citizens in order to curb the illegal numbers game known to have enriched not only operators but also their protectors in the government.

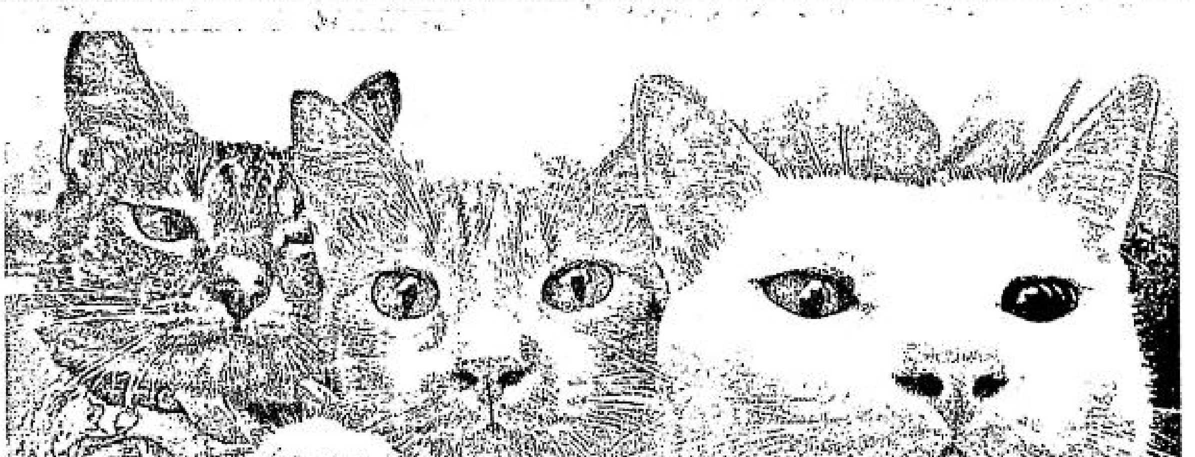
Jueteng is a P30-billion-a-year business patronized mainly by the poor.

"This administration has always been consistent in its tough stand against jueteng and there will be no sacred cows on this score," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said.

Bunye expressed appreciation for the "concerns" that Cruz earlier raised, as well as hope that "these would be translated into a full cooperation with our law enforcement agencies in going after erring government officials on the take."

"We would encourage him to name

NAME/ A8



JOAN BONDOC

FRIENDS OF ST. FRANCIS The feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron of animals, also World Animal Day, is an occasion for a visit to the Manila Zoo where an owl is one of the main attractions. At the Edsa Shrine, 56 dogs, 6 cats (right and below) and 2 rabbits are blessed. *(Story in Metro, Page A23.)*

JOAN BONDOC

Payatas hosts RP's first power plant fueled by garbage

By Volt Contreras

IT'S A case of making something good out of bad.

And if the government sticks to plan, the people who call the infamous Payatas dump in Quezon City home may soon become the envy of most Filipino households burdened by rising power bills.

The Payatas folk—hardened to the stink, with many of them thriving as scavengers and junk dealers—stand to benefit from First World technology that is transforming their community of garbage into a source of cheap electricity.

The first power plant in the country to run on garbage-generated methane now sits atop this grim monument to urban poverty, just a few yards from the spot where a "trash avalanche" killed 229 people on July 10, 2000.

The plant was switched on by President Macapagal-Arroyo on the fourth anniversary of the tragedy in July. It is part of City Hall's efforts under Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte to bury Payatas' horrors while making the dump compliant with environmental laws.

Payatas is actually made up of two separate dumps. The plant was built at a cost of around P12 million on the "old" dump that was closed shortly after the tragedy and is now covered with soil. (The "new" one is currently operating as a "controlled" dump, taking in some 500 truckloads of trash daily, but is also set for closure in 2007 under the Solid Waste Management Law.)

The generator and switchboards are housed in a shack the size of a one-car garage, from where pipelines spread out like tentacles before disappearing underground.

The whole facility lies some 80 meters above sea level, beneath which are layers of garbage that the dump has amassed over the last 30 years.

The plant's maximum output is 1 megawatt, enough to supply at least 2,000 households, said Jameel Jaymalin, a retired Army colonel tapped by the Quezon City government to head the Payatas Operations Group (POG).

The long-range plan is to operate the plant as an independent power producer, and have it included in the distribution grid of Manila Electric Co., Jaymalin said in an interview last week.

PAYATAS/ A10

Call centers: Only bright spot in RP economy

By Fe B. Zamora

THE SUBJECT is called "Sounds of American English."

In a classroom, an instructor speaks with a perfect nasal twang: "It's simple. Just drop your jaw... uh.. that's short A. In contrast, this is short E, as in bell, end, desert. For long E, you simply extend it, as in feel, speak."

In another room, another instructor lectures on redundances: "You say good morning, not a pleasant good morning. You don't say free gift, just gift."

Still in another room—only much, much bigger—150 young men and women sit in front of their computers, typing on their keyboards, listening and talking into their headsets.

There's excitement in the air, and the sound of a controlled din. Then it hits you: Every one in the room is speaking English—with an unmistakable American accent.

Welcome to the world of the call

CALL CENTERS/ A10

Now it can be told: Erap nearly wrecked PDI

By Frank Cimatu
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Now it can be told.

Keynoting the 41st Personnel Management Association of the Philippines conference here on Friday, INQUIRER president Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez finally revealed how the INQUIRER was left almost devastated by the advertising boycott instigated by friends and allies of ousted President Joseph Estrada in 1999.

"Now I can talk about it. Although for a long time, I couldn't for fear that we might alienate our advertisers," Romualdez told her audience at the College Assurance Plan-John Hay Trade and Cultural Center here.

Romualdez, who was honored by the PMAP as a "champion of her generation," told the conference bringing together the country's top management and human resources executives how the INQUIRER handled the crisis and came out stronger and the better for it.

"It solidified the company and the incident became a catalyst for us," she said.

Though much of the public thought that the boycott only affected the paper's movie advertising, Romualdez said it was more widespread and the effect on the company's financial state was enormous.

In July 1999, after meeting with Estrada on the problems of the local film in-

NOW/ A22

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The whole country will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread over Bicol Region and Visayas.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/10/03/04

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rain
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Widespread Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Widespread Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Widespread Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Winston strikes back, sues 4 GSIS execs for plunder

By Volt Contreras and Michael Lim Ubac

NOW, HEADS will roll.

"I am now doing a purge of the people inside," so said Winston Garcia, the embattled president and general manager of the Government Service Insurance System.

Switching from defense to counterattack Garcia said yesterday that he would soon be suspending, dismissing and suing a number of erring subordinates in GSIS to smoke out the "syndicates" pressuring him to resign.

"This web (of anomalies) is widespread inside GSIS but the noose is now slowly turning on them," he said at the Kapihan sa Sulo forum.

Under siege for alleged mismanagement of the state pension fund and abuse of power, Garcia put on a combative face even as he announced his filing of a plunder complaint against four Tarlac-based officials over an alleged P413-million housing loan scam.

Respondents

Filed with the Ombudsman on Thursday, the complaint named as respondents GSIS Tarlac Field Office (TFO) manager Amado Inocentes, division chief Celestino Cabalitasan, property appraiser Maria Victoria Leonardo and senior general insurance specialist Jerry Balagtas.

Garcia did not specifically link the syndicates he said were working for his ouster to the Tarlac group he had sued for plunder.

The Senate has decided to step into the row.

Its committee on government corporations and public enterprises chaired by Sen. Richard Gordon will soon conduct a full-blown inquiry into the controversy hounding Garcia.

Gordon yesterday said he would "get to the bottom of the issues" on his return next week from the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Geneva.

"These issues cannot simply be discussed in the court of public opinion. This is a very serious matter because we're dealing with the money of the Filipino people," Gordon said in a statement.

More scams

Garcia described the alleged housing loan racket as "just the tip of the iceberg."

"As we have computerized, we are discovering a lot of anomalies inside the GSIS and under investigation right now are a lot of officials who are involved," he said.

Garcia mentioned the plunder complaint after letting off steam about the alleged syndicates "hurting from the reforms I have done" and now orchestrating the "smear campaign" against him.

He made repeated references to a "cabal of reinsurance brokers" operating in the agency as one of the hidden forces behind his critics, who included some lawmakers and the government labor union Courage.

"I have already told Congress and the Senate that there is a reinsurance racket in the GSIS and Napocor (National Power Corp.)," he said. "If this coordinated action against me is not directed by a cabal of reinsurance brokers, I challenge them to conduct an investigation of the reinsurance of Napocor insurance polices. Hundreds of millions are involved."

"But I am surprised that not a single congressman has risen in order to file a resolution to investigate my allegations. I am surprised they are not focused on this but on mundane petty things such as my loans, my cash advances, which are all perfectly legal."

Big fish

As to his planned purge, Garcia said, "There are a lot of managers who will be suspended or dismissed because of their syndicated rackets... There is now one senior vice president who is about to be suspended for alleged anomalies."

He said confidential documents regarding his P11-million housing loan had been leaked to embarrass him.

"I will not give in to these syndicates," he said.

Quick loan

Courage had questioned the legality and propriety of the loan released just two days after Garcia applied for it in November 2003. Compare this quickness, the group said, to the problems encountered by ordinary government employees who apply for much smaller loans.

"Let them invoke *delicadeza* (propriety)," Garcia said, when told by the INQUIRER that Courage might not necessarily be raising legal questions regarding the loan but ethical questions.

"I have the *delicadeza* not to dip into the coffers of the members' funds," he said. "I will pay every centavo of my loan and GSIS will earn from me."

Gordon said Garcia and other parties would be given the opportunity to air their side during the Senate probe. *With a report from Cynthia D. Balana*

THE BIG CHILL!
President Macapagal-Arroyo and former Sen. Loren Legarda, who ran for vice president in the opposition in the May elections, were principal sponsors at the wedding Friday of Parang (Sulu) Vice Mayor Madzhar Loong and Mely Ann Paglas, daughter of Datu Ibrahim Paglas III, in Davao City. They flank British Ambassador Paul Dimond and at one point were seen talking to each another. BING GONZALES

Bush put RP in bad light—solons

By Cynthia D. Balana

IT WAS a shabby way to treat an ally.

That was how two congressmen from Mindanao reacted yesterday to US President George W. Bush's reference to the Philippines as one of the fronts in the US-led war on terror, during his televised debate with Democratic challenger John Kerry on Friday (Manila time).

In a joint press release, House Deputy Speaker Gerry Salapuddin (Lakas, Basilan) and Benasing Macarambon Jr. (NPC, Lanao del Sur) said that Bush, in alluding to this country as a battleground in the war on terror, disregarded the Philippines' success in the antiterrorism fight.

Second front

Bush, instead, "opted to put the country in a bad light before the international community," they said.

"It is unfortunate that instead of acknowledging our solid achievements to eliminate terror, President Bush undermined them and even put our country in an embarrassing position as the second terror front," Macarambon said. "This erroneous claim must be rectified."

For his part, Salapuddin said: "It is worth mentioning that our terror problem is miniscule compared to that of the US and some parts of Asia. Obviously, he (Bush) overlooked this fact when he made a false claim about the country's position on the terror front."

Saddam, not Osama

Mention of the Philippines during the US debate occurred after Kerry had attacked Bush for going after Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and allowing al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden to escape capture.

Bush said the US and its allies were making progress in the war on terror, and that "the front on this war is more than just one place."

"The Philippines... we've got help... we're helping them there... to bring al-Qaida affiliates to justice there," Bush said.

Salapuddin said Bush's claim was not surprising considering that the US President's intelligence advisers had a history of coming out with outmoded or flawed reports.

Congress' part

Macarambon said the country had been making headway in its antiterror campaign, citing the military's success in cutting the Abu Sayyaf strength by 65 percent from a high of 1,300 in 2001 to 396 by end of June 2004.

Macarambon said even Congress had contributed to the antiterror effort by passing the Anti-Money Laundering Act, which was intended, among other things, to choke the flow of terrorist funds.

The Philippines has also adopted a 16-point counterterrorism program, organized the Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Center to consolidate information on terrorism, and taken active participation in various counter-terrorism efforts in the Southeast Asian and Asia-Pacific regions.

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Lawyer says Oakwood mutineers must be freed

By Philip C. Tubeza and Juliet Labog-Javellana

DETAINED Magdalo soldiers and junior officers involved in the Oakwood mutiny should be released in line with the Arroyo administration's call for national reconciliation, a lawyer said yesterday.

This developed as Malacañang posed no objection to Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez's position that the Oakwood mutineers should not be granted amnesty.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye reiterated that the Magdalo officers did not ask for amnesty and President Macapagal-Arroyo did not offer it when the Oakwood mutiny leaders publicly apologized to her for the mutiny.

"You can call it amnesty or pardon but we should secure their release. It won't do the country any good if they remain in prison. They have no value to the government if they are jailed," said lawyer Argee Guevarra, counsel for the mutineers.

While the mutineers did not demand amnesty or a presidential pardon in exchange for apologizing for the July 2003 takeover of the Oakwood apartment hotel in Makati, their release would be in line with the administration call for national reconciliation, Guevarra said.

He said this view was shared by some of his fellow lawyers who were defending the mutineers.

"These are good people. They are not corrupt. The administration has to solve this paradox of having good people in prison while crooks remain free in government," Guevarra said. "Nobody was killed in Oakwood. Nothing was stolen," he said.

The release of the 32 junior officers and enlisted men involved in the July 2003 takeover of the Oakwood Premier in Makati City, however, seems farfetched with Malacañang bent on pursuing the cases against them.

"The President has said that while she accepted the apology of the Magdalo officers, the cases against them should continue," Bunye said.

"If anything is being considered by the President, it is leniency for those who only followed their officers," he said.

Managers propose radical measures to boost business

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—The country's top corporate personnel managers have endorsed a labor measure to Congress that would legalize the termination of "unproductive" and "inefficient" workers, as government pushes for a business landscape that would thrive amid the fiscal crisis.

The Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) is also seeking authority to pay workers according to the quantity and quality of their work, and no longer by the hours they work for a firm.

These were two of the more controversial demands in a 13-point PMAP proposition that was drafted by the group's team of experts based on dialogues with local industrialists and militant labor groups, according to Gil Bangalan, the PMAP official who led the team.

Oscar Contreras, PMAP president, said changes in the 1974 Labor Code were necessary to correct the labor imbalance.

Contreras said PMAP wanted to help President Macapagal-Arroyo fulfill her plan to create six to 10 million jobs by 2010.

He said a cursory check of government statistics showed a 7 to 8 percent increase in job vacancies nationwide.

Citing civil rights, PMAP essentially drafted new labor provisions compelling Philippine companies to apply equal opportunity clauses for hiring that would not discriminate against an applicant's age, religion, disability or political ideology, Emerico de Guzman, former PMAP president, said.

Labor Undersecretary Josephus Jimenez said Philippine companies also want to remove the martial law-era provision banning women from night duty, because new industries like call centers function on a 24-hour work schedule.

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Per DTI-NCR permit No. 4974, Series of 2004.

Visa privilege seen to boost Sino visitors

By Jerome Aning

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism on Friday said the government would grant "visa-upon-arrival" privileges to all Chinese tourists arriving in the Philippines, whether individually or in groups.

Speaking at a government–private sector forum on current tourism trends, Tourism Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano said the Bureau of Immigration and the Department of Foreign Affairs had agreed to extend the privilege to Chinese tourists to boost their numbers.

Durano also said the validity of the tourist visa would be extended from the current seven days to 14 days after a survey revealed the average Chinese tourist stayed in the country 11 days.

Currently, Chinese nationals are granted the visa-on-arrival privilege only when they enter the country through Laoag City.

More than 20.2 million Chinese traveled outside their country last year, with 11 million going to various Asian nations.

The DOT said the P1-million bond posted by local tour operators who bring Chinese visitors into the country would be eliminated, but the operators would still have to present "letters of guarantee" to the DOT, BI and DFA taking full responsibility for the Chinese visitors they bring in.

Durano said the DOT would set up "special lanes" for Chinese tourists at the airports while representatives of travel agencies would be allowed at immigration counters and the duty free shops to help them.

The DOT, Durano said, will assign Chinese-speaking personnel to the airports, consular and immigration offices, and tourism centers. It will also coordinate with immigration and foreign affairs officials to prevent any Chinese tourist from overstaying.

Studies made by the DOT showed the Chinese tourists were partial to beaches, ecotourism, sightseeing and shopping while in the Philippines.

Chinese arrivals were up 32 percent from January to August this year compared to the same period last year. There were 26,471 Chinese who arrived in the first eight months of the year compared to 20,065 in the same period last year.

Aside from Metro Manila, the areas which saw the greatest number of Chinese visitors were Laoag, Batangas, Tagaytay, Subic and Cebu.

British tourists up despite warnings

TOURIST arrivals from the United Kingdom continue to rise despite travel warnings on terror threats from the British government.

The Department of Tourism yesterday released figures showing that British tourist arrivals increased by 22.7 percent in the first eight months this year, from 30,375 in 2003 to 37,262.

Almost 13,000 of this year's British arrivals toured various destinations outside Metro Manila, the favorites being Subic, Boracay, Cebu and Bohol.

Tourism Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano assured tourists that the Philippines remained a safe tourist destination and the government was making steady progress in its effort to stamp out terrorism.

A press statement from Malacañang said the government was steadily closing in on the terrorist threat and urged allies to update their travel advisories.

This year, the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office renewed seven times its travel warnings on the Philippines, advising its citizens on terrorism threats, kidnappings and other security situations.

The latest advisory warned Britons against "indiscriminate terrorist attacks" in the Philippines.

The British ambassador to the Philippines, Paul Dimond, has clarified that the advisory did not discourage Britons from traveling to the Philippines.

In fact, he said, "much of the work at the British Embassy relates to encouraging British nationals from various fields to visit the Philippines to develop activities of mutual benefit."

Dimond said that although there was a current advisory against traveling to parts of Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago, this was being kept "under constant review." *Jerome Aning*

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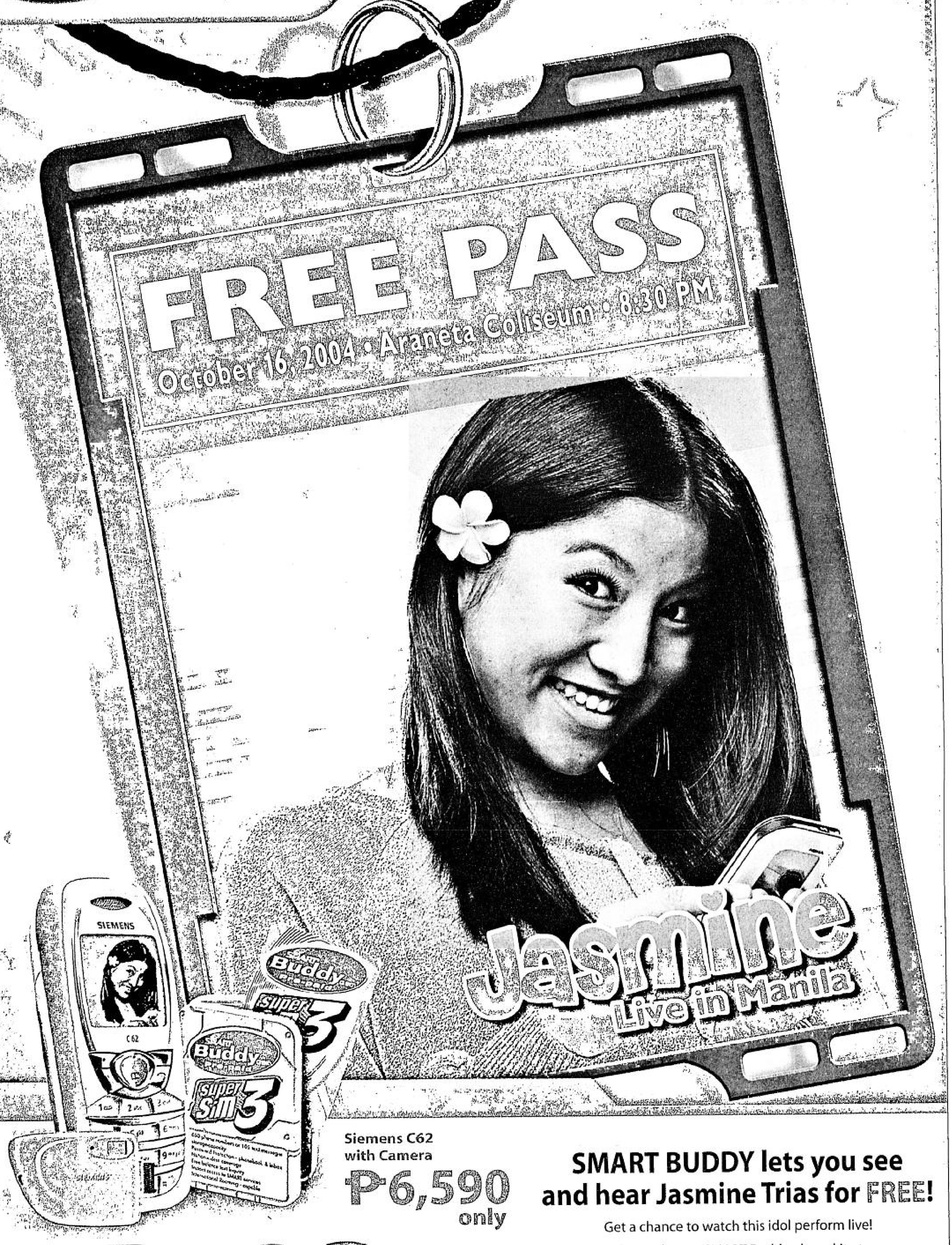

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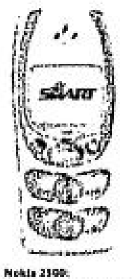
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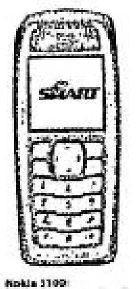
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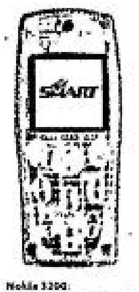
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Geologist seeks dismissal of contempt rap

By Armand N. Nocum

GEOLOGIST Kelvin Rodolfo has asked the Sandiganbayan to throw out the motion filed by officials of the Department of Public Works and Highways accused in the P3-billion FVR Megadike scam which seeks to cite him and the INQUIRER for contempt for reporting on Rodolfo's testimony in court.

Eight DPWH officials charged with graft for the alleged faulty design of the megadike claimed that the INQUIRER violated the law on "sub judice" which prohibits the publication of commentaries on issues pending in court.

But in a Sept. 2 comment, a copy of which was provided to the INQUIRER by Ombudsman prosecutor Diosdado V. Calonge, Rodolfo said the "pending motion is [making] much ado about nothing."

According to him, his statements that saw print in the INQUIRER were made "in general terms to the interviewer's general question about future lahar activity."

But most importantly, he said, the "interview took place after" his testimony in court.

Rodolfo explained that what was published in the INQUIRER was essentially the same testimony he made in court prior to the interview.

Thus, he said, his statements in media could not have influenced the court since the testimony was heard by the presiding justices themselves, observers and the INQUIRER reporter who attended the court proceedings.

Rodolfo asked First Division Presiding Justice Teresita Leonardo-de Castro and Associate Justices Diosdado Peralta and Roland Jurado to deny the motion of the DPWH officials for "obvious lack of merit and for being procedurally defective."

The INQUIRER reported on Rodolfo's testimony on Aug. 24 where he blamed faulty design for the breaching of a portion of the FVR Megadike project in 1996.

Replying to questions from Calonge, Rodolfo said it was not the direct onslaught of lahar that destroyed the dike, but the "standing water" accumulated behind the dike during a heavy rainfall in 1996.

He blamed officials of the DPWH's Bureau of Maintenance (BOM) for failing to make a comprehensive study of the behavior of lahar, as well as a test-boring of the lahar deposits to anticipate the possibility that water would destroy the dike.

The dike was made up of concrete laid over highly porous lahar deposits. It served as a catchment for the highly porous lahar deposits that flowed into the rivers of Pampanga following the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in 1991.

Charged with graft before the Sandiganbayan were BOM officials Bienvenido C. Leuterio, Gregorio Carillo, Sofia Santiago, Pedro Tercino, Ramon Velasquez, Gilbert Reyes, Darious de Guzman and Raymund Adawag.

Show ITR, register your car

TEN CONGRESSMEN yesterday asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to issue an executive order mandating the Land Transportation Office to require all motor vehicle owners to submit copies of their income tax returns (ITRs) before their vehicles would be registered by the LTO.

The additional car registration requirement is envisioned to allow both the LTO and the Bureau of Internal Revenue to crosscheck the income tax payments of wealthy individuals with their assets, including their luxury vehicles.

Based on LTO records, Rep. Herminio Teves (Lakas, Negros Occidental) said, the country now has over 3.14 million privately-owned motor vehicles.

"There is a large discrepancy between the number of individuals who own cars and those filing ITRs. Obviously, many car owners are not filing tax returns," Teves said.

Cynthia D. Balana

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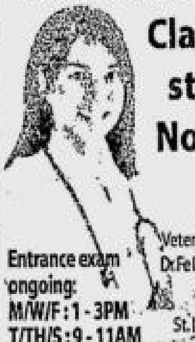

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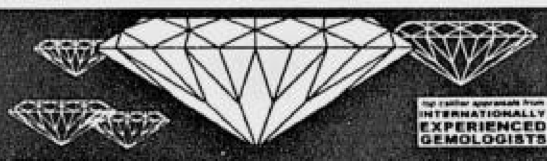

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The Australian Embassy will be opened for pre-poll voting during the hours of 0830-1630 Monday to Friday from 27 September 2004 through 08 October 2004. The Embassy is located at 23rd Floor of the RCBC Plaza Tower 2 Ayala Avenue cor. Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

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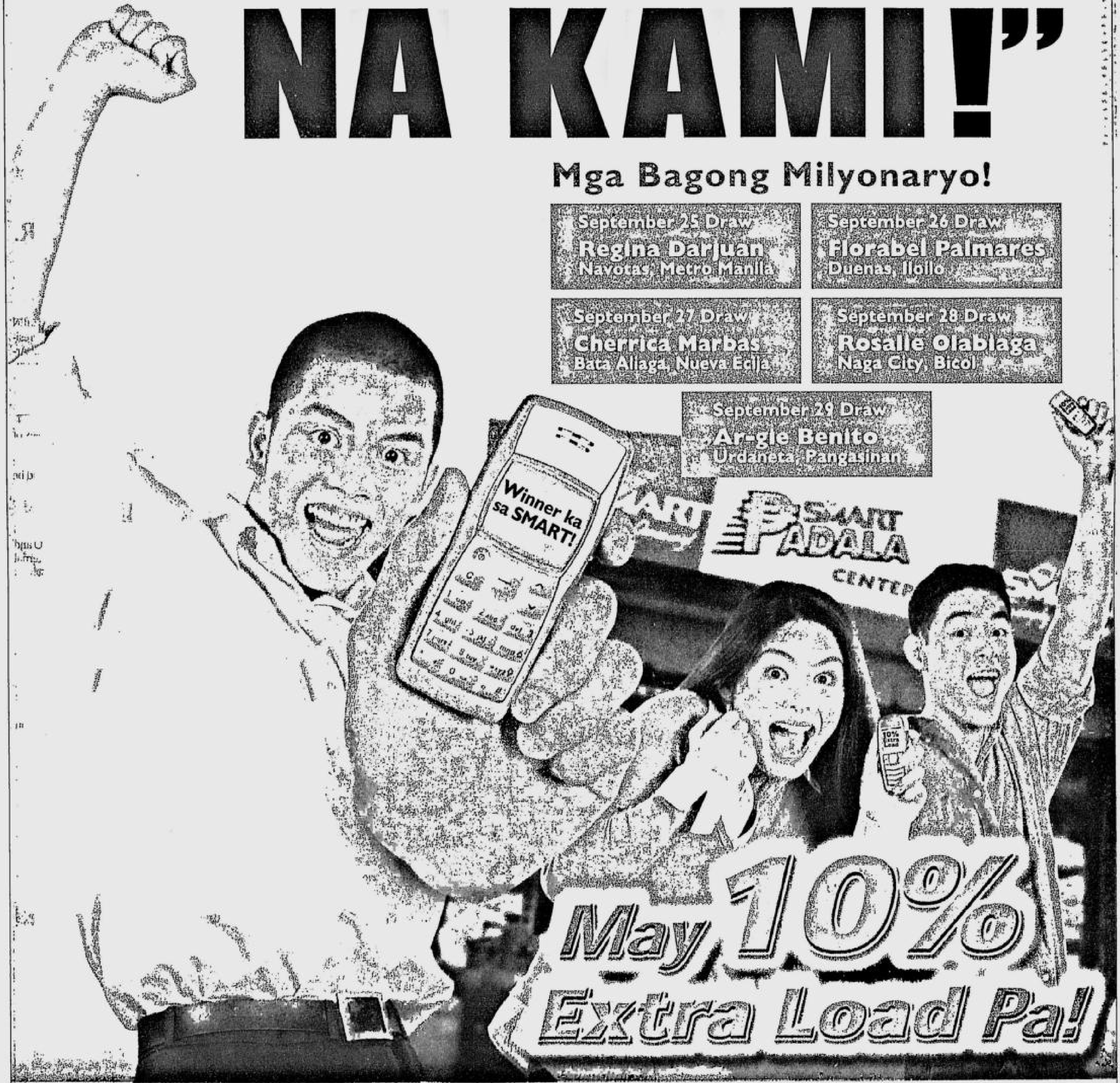
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Name names in jueteng racket, bishop told

From page A1

names, and we assure him that we will help win his crusade against jueteng by providing all the means in building up a strong case against those violating the law," Bunye added.

Cruz is the leader of the Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng (National Crusade Against Jueteng).

Speaking at a joint press conference on Friday with Philippine National Police Director General Edgar Aglipay, Cruz said a private investigation had revealed that at least four national officials from Luzon and the Visayas and a number of mayors were deeply involved in jueteng.

He said one of the national officials was receiving P6 million a month in jueteng payola. But he refused to identify the officials just yet, saying he would do so once he had gathered airtight evidence.

But the chair of the Senate committee on public order and illegal drugs also urged Cruz to tell it like it is.

"I think he should reveal the names of these government officials. Whoever is coddling any illegal activity should be named," Sen. Manuel Villar said.

He pointed out that if Cruz named names, "those who are not guilty will not become suspects."

He added that he was inclined to ask the Senate when it resumes session late this month to look into the archbishop's statements.

Culture of gambling

Villar said that while legalizing the numbers game might appear to be the practical solution, "the problem is that it will encourage gambling among Filipinos, and it may get ingrained in our culture."

"We must look at it at a higher level, putting our culture in consideration," he said.

Villar also said there was no guarantee that legalizing jueteng would actually generate revenues for the government and minimize corruption among law enforcers.

"The greatest downside in legalizing jueteng is that it will instill a culture of gambling, especially among the youth who are also known to place bets in this game," he said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has rejected calls from a number of legislators and other government officials to legalize jueteng as a steady source of income for the cash-strapped government.

She had said that her administration's moral standards would not be compromised in the effort to control the burgeoning budget deficit.

'Extortion' game

According to Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, jueteng is a "well-organized extortion" that victimizes the poor and has never made them wealthy.

Asked to comment on Cruz's statements, Rosales said: "Jueteng is a non-value game. Below zero. It should never be promoted. Show me a bettor who became rich. You won't find one."

He said the only ones who were making money from the game were the financiers and operators and their protectors.

Rosales said the supposed involvement of politicians in jueteng operations made the problem worse.

"That's why they should be taken to hell," he said in an interview at the Edsa Shrine, where he celebrated Mass to mark the launching of the 6th Children's Rosary Rally.

The rally has for its theme "Loving Jesus with Mary for Peace and Unity."

Rosales described Cruz's campaign against gambling as part of an advocacy that could complement the Church-based Pondong Pinoy program.

The program is a fund-raising venture wherein Catholics are urged to give 25 centavos to the Church, in order to raise money for pro-poor projects.

Police protection

Cruz's exposé on the supposed involvement of local and national officials in jueteng operations has Aglipay worried.

Expressing concern for the archbishop's personal safety, the PNP chief told dzRH radio yesterday morning: "We will secure him by monitoring his activities."

Aglipay said Cruz had refused his offer of bodyguards for his protection.

He said that police would secure Cruz by following him around but keep their distance, and that the PNP would have to figure out other ways to protect the archbishop.

"There is nothing we can do if Archbishop Cruz refuses our offer of close-in security, but we are duty-bound to ensure his safety," Aglipay said in Filipino.

He also said the PNP would investigate Cruz's exposé.

The outspoken Cruz had earlier said that since he launched his campaign against jueteng, he had been receiving death threats. *With reports from Alcuin Papa and Martin P. Marfil*

Pangilinan formula: Let lotto kill 'jueteng'

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CANDABA, Pampanga—The government can stamp out "jueteng" by strengthening the state-sanctioned lotto, Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan said yesterday.

This move could be part of the "long-term approach" to stop the illegal numbers game, he added, in reaction to the anti-jueteng campaign of Pangasinan Archbishop Oscar Cruz. *(See banner story.)*

Jueteng operations continued last week in Central Luzon despite the police drive against it, said Chief Supt. Quirino de la Torre, regional police director.

Various sources of the INQUIRER said that in Pampanga, suspected jueteng lord Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda had reclaimed control of the game with the support of local officials.

Pangilinan, who visited Pampanga yesterday, said the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office should compete against jueteng by allowing cheaper bets and offering other attractive come-ons.

In lotto, the lowest bet accepted is P10. In jueteng, bets go as low as P1 and as high as P1,000 or even more.

Pangilinan said the PCSO should try pitting lotto against jueteng because the latter had always been popular among the masses.

Bettors should also be encouraged to go for lotto because it is legal and generates revenues for the government's charity projects, he said, adding:

"The long-term approach to addressing jueteng is to provide alternatives that are beneficial to the public."

Pangilinan said this was how illegal games were stopped in other countries.

He also said jueteng was an issue of enforcement, not legislation.

"The ball is now in the court of the Philippine National Police and the communities," he said.

China hosts …

From page A1

urban families to one child.

Pairs of twins in matching cowboy hats, sweaters or scarves mingled, chatted and performed on stage at the government-sponsored event in a Beijing park. A pair of men played a saxophone duet and younger twins danced and sang.

Participants ranged in age from 69 to a set of 4-month-olds in a double stroller. Organizers said 500 sets of twins, including some from abroad, signed up to attend the four-day festival.

A set of 15-year-old triplets from eastern China also showed up.

"We're never lonely," said Wang Yanren, one of the trio of teenage girls, who wore matching blue jackets. "Now with family planning, every family is only supposed to have one child. So we're lucky."

Chinese, who wish newlyweds "double happiness" and entrepreneurs "double fortune," look on twins as a sign of good luck. A boy-and-girl pair is called a "dragon and phoenix"—a reference to two traditional symbols of prosperity.

These days, parents of twins are considered especially lucky.

Rules imposed two decades ago in hopes of slowing the growth of China's vast population of 1.3 billion people limit urban couples to one child and those in the countryside to two.

Forbidden extra birth

But twins and other multiple births are exempt from heavy fines imposed for additional births.

Hoping to take advantage of that exemption, some Chinese parents try to hide a forbidden extra birth by registering the child with an older sibling as a set of twins.

The Beijing festival was held to coincide with China's weeklong National Day holiday, which began Friday, said Tan Ying, director of the park where the event was taking place.

Tan said several foreign sets of twins were to attend, though none was on hand on the opening day.

"It's too bad we haven't seen any foreign twins here," said Shen Min, a man in his 30s. He and his twin brother, Shen Jun, wore matching green shirts and blue jerseys. "We wanted to see how they act."

Many echoed the sentiment that having a twin means added emotional support in a society of one child families—isolated "little emperors" who Chinese officials worry are growing up maladjusted.

"We have a partner. We naturally have a friend to talk to," said Zhang Juan, who with her sister, Zhang Chan, wore identical red dresses and yellow scarves. They heightened the effect with matching sets of fashionable blond streaks in their hair.

Matching dimples

But still, Zheng Yancui and Zheng Yanzhu, a bubbly pair of sisters in their 30s with matching dimples and sweaters, said looking exactly alike can have its drawbacks.

"It's hard when you're first meeting a boyfriend," Zheng Yancui said, as her sister laughed. "It's really awkward when her new boyfriend looks at me with that look." *AP*

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)—Warrantless arrest—The Court finds that the arrest was lawful as appellant was actually committing a crime when she was arrested—transporting marijuana, is an act prohibited by law. Since a lawful arrest was made, the resulting warrantless search on appellant was also valid as the legitimate warrantless arrest authorized the arresting police officers to validly search and seize from the offender (1) any dangerous weapons and (2) the things which may be used as proof of the commission of the offense. In the present case, the warrantless arrest was lawful because it fell under Rule 113, Section 5(a) of the Revised Rules of Criminal Procedure. This section provides that a peace officer may arrest a person even without a warrant when, in his presence, the person to be arrested has committed, is actually committing or is attempting to commit an offense. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Corona, People vs Ayangao, G. R. No. 142356] **BY R. B. VERA**

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, October 3, 2004
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4**

Yahweh, how long will I cry for help while you pay no attention to me? I denounce the oppression and you do not save.

Why do you make me see injustice?

Are you pleased to look on tyranny? All I see is outrage, violence and quarrels.

Then Yahweh answered me and said,

"Write down the vision, inscribe it on tables so it can be easily read, since this is a vision for an appointed time; it will not fail but will be fulfilled in due time. If it delays, wait for it, for it will come and will not be deferred. Look:

I don't look with favor on the one who gives way; the upright, on the other hand, will live by his faithfulness."

2nd Reading: **2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14**

I invite you to fan into a flame the gift of God you received through the laying on of my hands. For God did not confer on us a spirit of bashfulness, but of strength, love and good judgment. Do not be ashamed of testifying to our Lord, nor of seeing me in chains. On the contrary, do your share in laboring for the Gospel with the strength of God.

Follow the pattern of the sound doctrine which you have heard from me, concerning faith and love in Christ Jesus. Keep this precious deposit with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

Gospel: **Lk 17:5-10**

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." And the Lord said, "If you have faith even the size of a mustard seed, you may say to this tree: 'Be uprooted and plant yourself in the sea,' and it will obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant coming in from the fields after plowing or tending sheep: 'Come at once and sit down at table?' No, you tell him: 'Prepare my dinner. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink; you can eat and drink afterwards.' Do you thank this servant for doing what you commanded? So for you. When you have done all that you have been told to do, you must say: 'We are no more than servants; we have only done our duty.'"

Commentary

St. Bede the Venerable (died 735) tells of the first Christian missionaries to arrive in Britain. A local king convened a meeting of his Council to decide what to do about this new religion. In the course of the debate one of the members said, "O king, imagine this scene: you are seated at table with all your counts and vassals. It is winter. The hall is well heated, the fire lighting. Outside a storm is raging with snow and rain. Suddenly a little bird flies into the hall from one side and goes out through the other. During those moments while it is flying through the hall it is sheltered from the freezing cold; but the moment it flies out again it is plunged into the darkness of winter. It seems to me that our life is thus. We don't know what has preceded it and we don't know what is to follow. If this new faith offers us some light on the subject it will be worth our attention."

The theme of today's Liturgy is faith. The faith is a light only for people who are searching. The moment we stop searching we no longer need the light. The end of the gospel passage is a warning. We are capable of turning our faith into a crusade, an ego-plan. But if after all our efforts we can still call ourselves unprofitable servants, the ego has nothing to cling to.

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Date / Time		Subject of MCLE Activity (Credit Units)	Lecturer	Subject
Oct. 16, 2004	8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Trial & Pre-Trial Skills (2)	**Prof. Arturo Balbastro** Former Dean, San Sebastian College, Institute of Law Author, Trial techniques	Trial Techniques
	10:15 - 12:15 p.m.	Updates in Substantive & Procedural Laws & Jurisprudence (2)	**Justice Japar Dimaampao** Associate Justice, Court of Appeals Author, Tax Principles & Remedies	Updates on Mercantile Law
	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Alternative Dispute Resolution (2)	**Atty. Jim Lopez** Author, The Law on Alternative Dispute	ADR: Negotiation & Conflict Management
	3:15 - 6:15 p.m.	Updates in Substantive & Procedural Laws & Jurisprudence (3)	**Justice Edilberto Sandoval** Associate Justice, Sandiganbayan Author, Pointers on Criminal Law	Updates on Criminal Law
Oct. 23, 2004	8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	MCLE Prescribed Subject: Law & Technology (2)	**Atty. Esmeraldo Amistad** Author, E-Laws Primer with Notes and Cases	Law & Computers
	10:15 - 12:15 p.m.	Legal Writing & Oral Advocacy (2)	**Dr. Fortunato Gupit** Law Professor and Bar Reviewer Author, Cases in Civil Procedure & Philippine Legal Materials	Oral Advocacy & Legal Writing
	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Updates in Substantive & Procedural Laws & Jurisprudence (2)	**Prof. Victorino Mamalateo** Former Assistant Commissioner - BIR Author, Phil. Income Taxation and Reviewer in Taxation	Updates on Taxation
	3:15 - 6:15 p.m.	Alternative Dispute Resolution (3)	**Dean Custodio Parlade** Author, Conciliation and Arbitration on Construction Dispute	International Dispute Resolution
Oct. 30, 2004	8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Trial & Pre-Trial Skills (2)	**Justice Oscar Herrera** Former Associate Justice, Court of Appeals Author, Remedial Law Vols. 1-6	Modes of Discovery
	10:15 - 12:15 p.m.	International Law (2)	**Justice Jorge Coquia** Former Associate Justice, Court of Appeals Author, Legal Profession	International Law
	1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	MCLE Prescribed Subject: Law & Technology (2)	**Justice Regalado Maambong** Associate Justice, Court of Appeals	Essentials of Forensic Ballistics
	3:15 - 6:15 p.m.	Legal Ethics (3)	**Dean Ernesto Pineda** Dean, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila Law Center	Problem Areas in Legal Ethics
Nov. 06, 2004	9:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Legal Ethics (3)	**Justice Hector Hofileña** Former Associate Justice, Court of Appeals	Problem Areas in Legal Ethics
	1:00 - .3:00 p.m.	Legal Writing & Oral Advocacy (2)	**Atty. Rodolfo Waga** Author - Handbook on Contract Drafting	Contract Drafting
	3:15 - 5:15 p.m.	Updates in Substantive & Procedural Laws & Jurisprudence (2)	**Dean Antonio Abad** Dean, Adamson University College of Law Author, Compendium on Labor Law	Updates on Labor Law
	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	MCLE Prescribed Subject: Law Reforms in Specific Areas in Law (2)	**Atty. Vicente Ramirez** Author, The Law on Marriage	Family Law: Annulment of Marriage
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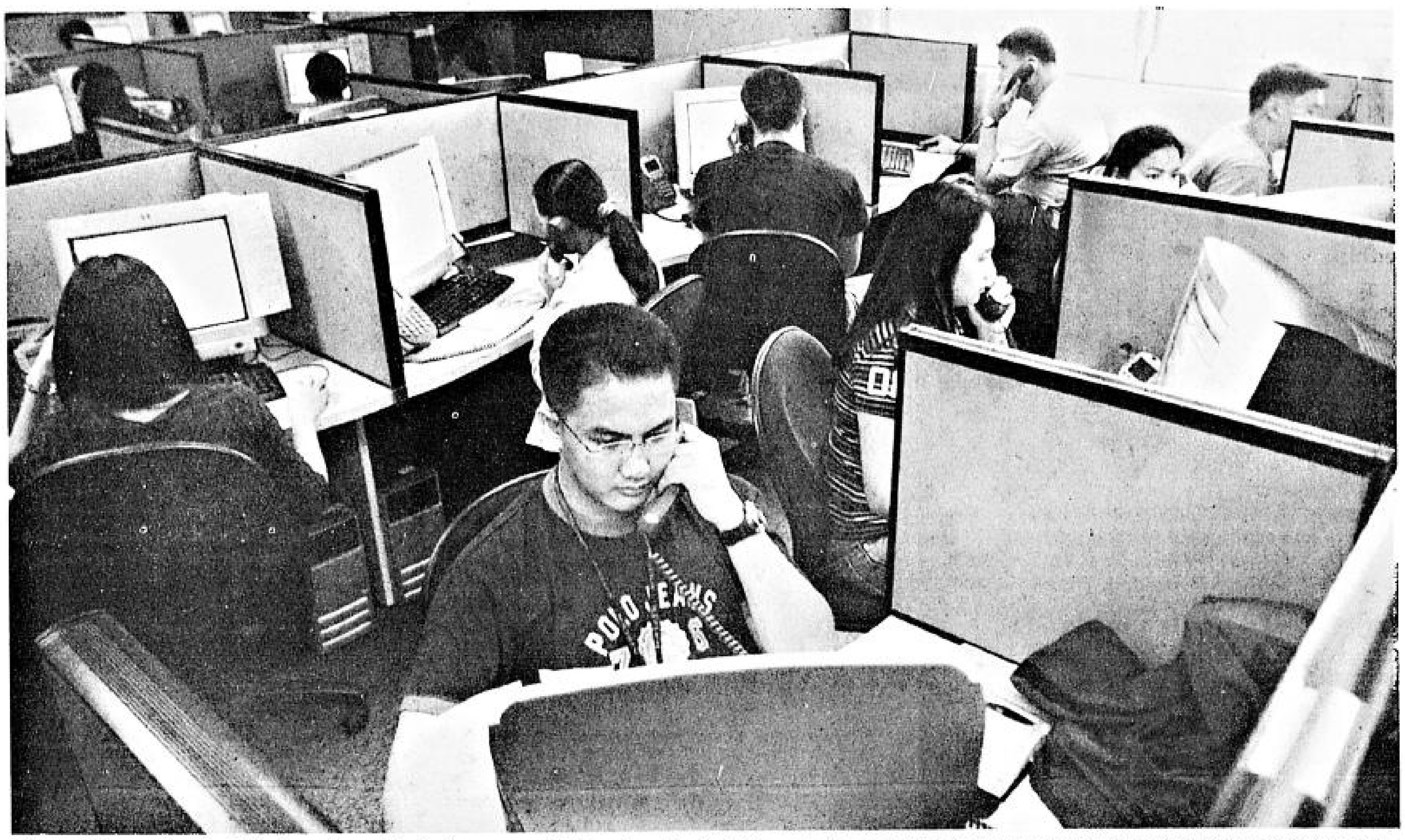
Call centers: Only bright spot in RP economy

From page A1



THE GOAL is to make the Philippines the world's "call center capital" to outrank India. In five years, its export revenues are projected to reach $4 billion, second only to the $7-billion remittances from overseas workers. Above eTelecare now employs 3,000 since it opened in 2000 with 50 agents. ROMY HOMILLADA

center, a work place that connects the Philippines to the rest of the world using the magic of technology.

A call center, also called contact center, is a specialized facility with a capacity of 300 to 500 workstations.

Here, a Filipino call center representative attends to a range of phone services: from outbound calls on sales verification and credit and collection, to inbound inquiries about a lost credit card, a defective flat iron or questions on a potential stock investment from a customer in the US.

Call centers typically train their new hires before they don their headsets and start working the phones. Two to four weeks are devoted to the English language. Another two to four weeks are spent on process training for specific clients, such as financial, telecommunication and customer services.

Thanks to proper training and the enduring American influence on the Filipino lifestyle, the customer won't even know that his inquiry had been outsourced to a call center in the Philippines, and answered by a homegrown Filipino.

Bright spot

Some 30,000 Filipinos have pinned their career hopes on the emerging call center industry, described by analysts as the remaining bright spot in the Philippine economy.

The industry has grown by leaps and bounds in four years—from 1,000 employees in 2000 to a projected 40,000 employees by the end of this year, according to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The number of call centers also doubled from 20 in 2003 to 40 this year, expanding its location from Metro Manila to Clark and Cebu.

"The industry has grown from zero in 2000 to 30,000 agents and P4 billion in export revenues this year. By 2009, the export revenues could reach $4 billion, second to the $7 billion remittances from overseas workers," said Benedict Hernandez, vice president and general manager of eTelecare, a pioneer in the call center industry.

With this potential, the DTI has envisioned the Philippines "as the major base for global contact centers" by 2005, with a projected 80,000 call center agents working 24 hours a day.

The long-term goal is to make the Philippines the "call center capital" of the world, to outrank India, which is currently the leading offshore destination for business process outsourcing (BPO) and call centers.

Jim Franke, co-founder of eTelecare, said the Philippines had all the makings of a future call center capital of the world.

Veddy British

"With its English-speaking labor force, a supportive government that offers tax incentives to BPOs and call centers, the Philippines has become more attractive than India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Vietnam and Malaysia," he said.

British company Asia Call Centre, one of the top BPOs (business process outsourcing) in the Philippines, has also noticed the Filipino's proficiency in English.

"The Philippines has established itself as the premier destination for offshore call center activities from the United States but there is now massive interest from the UK. There are already a number of high profile British companies moving to Manila with more to follow in the next 12 months. As the only British call center BPO in Manila, Asia Call Centre believes it is in a prime position to offer its services," the company said in a statement.

Just last April, the company launched its British-accent language and communication curriculum for companies based in Manila.

Well-compensated

When it first opened in 2000, eTelecare hired 50 customer care agents. Of the first 50, Hernandez said 47 were graduates from Ateneo, two from La Salle and one from Miriam College.

Today, the company employs nearly 3,000 graduates of colleges and universities nationwide like Silliman University in Dumaguete City, and traditional computer schools like AMA. Graduates from Ateneo, La Salle and other Manila-based universities continue to dominate its workforce.

In mid-2000, La Salle management graduate Carlo Jose, 27, was hired for a job at eTelecare. His starting salary then was P15,000 including allowances.

Ateneo Communication Arts graduate Monica Maralit, 29, was with Citibank customer care when she shifted to eTelecare in 2000. She has never regretted her decision.

Today, Jose and Maralit rank among the young, high-earning professionals who work in call centers. As operations managers, Jose and Maralit each receive a monthly salary of not less than P100,000.

Call center workers are well-compensated, but the hours take getting used to.

"You work while the rest of Metro Manila is asleep. It means having dinner at 6 a.m. and breakfast at 3 p.m. But you get used to it," Maralit said.

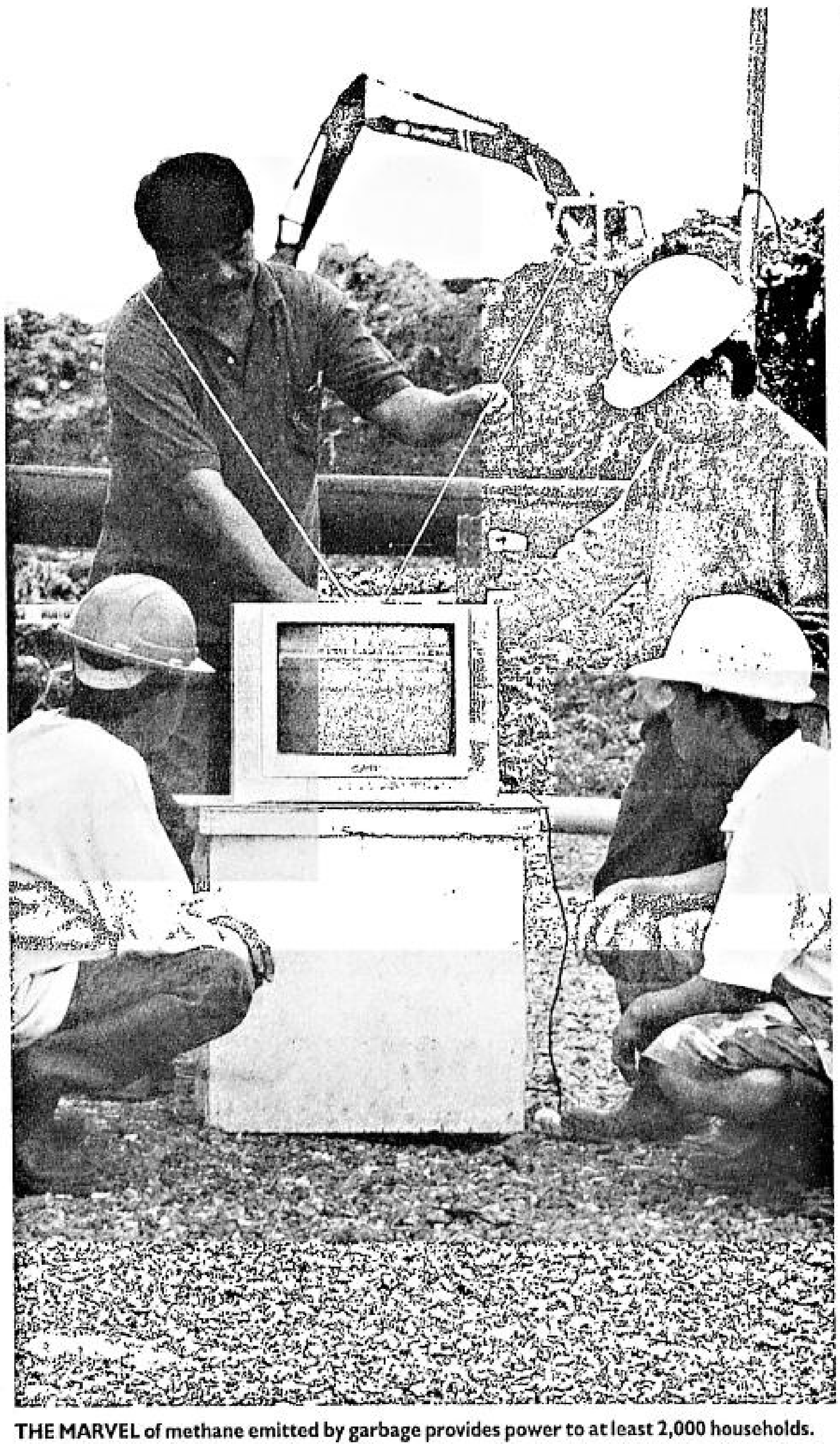
But with great compensation comes great responsibility.

World-class

Two years ago, licensed physical therapist Arlyn Acleta of eTelecare was awarded Best Call Center Agent by "Call Center" Magazine's annual Customer Care Leadership Awards in Arizona, USA.

It was Acleta's first trip to the US. Remembering that day, she said: "I felt like I was representing the entire country and proving that we are definitely world-class."

Payatas hosts RP's first power plant fueled by garbage



THE MARVEL of methane emitted by garbage provides power to at least 2,000 households. Engineers and maintenance staff of the Payatas Operations Group demonstrate the garbage power generator project. JOAN BONDOC

From page A1

If this plan materializes, "we will ask for discounts [for the end-users]," he said when asked how Payatas households tapping into the plant would be billed. Such homes may even have "two main switches" to choose from—one for Meralco power and the other for energy drawn from the dump.

Real marvel

But the plant's real marvel is in its use of methane, a highly combustible gas that the dump's rotting bowels can provide for the next 5-10 years, said Dr. Carlo Arcilla, a geologist from the University of the Philippines who conducted preliminary studies for the project.

Methane is produced when organic materials decompose in an anaerobic or oxygen-free environment, Arcilla explained. In Payatas, this colorless, odorless gas is gathered and channeled to the generator through a network of perforated, near-horizontal pipes that run three meters below the ground.

The professor demonstrated the system through a simple example: Imagine a mound of animal dung or compost that has lain undisturbed for months. Pierce it sideways with a perforated pipe, then light a match close to the exposed end of the pipe. If the air near the pipe's mouth ignites and sustains a flame, that's methane burning.

According to Arcilla, garbage methane-fed power plants are now common in the United States where dumps are well-planned and "engineered" into landfills—unlike the monstrosity that is Payatas, which went unmanaged for decades.

"Nandyan na yan, eh (It's already there), so we just have to make the best of it," he told the INQUIRER. "This is a situation where you make something good out of bad."

Demo stage

The plant is still on its "demonstration stage," Jaymalin clarified.

When first tested in December last year, he recalled, the apparatus lit up a number of street lamps and Christmas lights in Payatas for several nights.

On the other hand, he reported, investors, including foreign businessmen, had expressed interest in bankrolling the project with an eye toward commercial operations.

The plant—officially called the Payatas Gas to Power Generation Project—is a collaborative effort of the city government, Philippine National Oil Co.-Exploration Corp. and consultants from the UP science community. City Hall provided the funding, and the PNOC and UP, technical expertise.

Jaymalin's office regularly receives guests like students and members of environmental and civic groups who want to see the plant and other Payatas projects.

Bonus

But for Jaymalin and Arcilla, finding an unconventional power source was actually just a "bonus" because the POG's mission is mainly to impose order in the area and reduce the dangers that the dump poses to the health and safety of nearby residents and facilities, which include the Novaliches reservoir.

Arcilla said it pleased him to see the dump covered with soil to prevent the methane from causing fires that in turn produce smoke rich in cancer-causing substances like dioxin and furan.

He said these carcinogens were produced by the "incomplete burning" of plastic, which, based on POG data, made up 70 percent of Payatas' daily trash intake.

Besides, methane is "a greenhouse gas four times more harmful than carbon dioxide," Arcilla said.

"We're here primarily for pollution prevention—that's why having the plant is just a bonus," Jaymalin said.

PIPELINES disappear underground all the way down to the layers of garbage that Payatas had amassed the past 30 years. Engineer Louie Sabater of the Payatas Operations Group explains how the facility works. JOAN BONDOC

Kerry campaign energized after debate

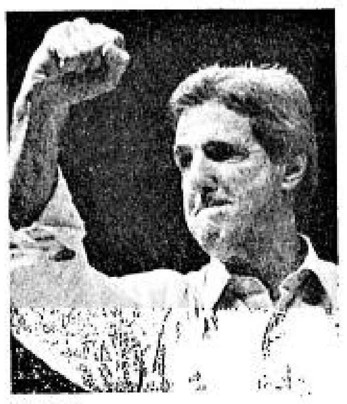
ORLANDO, Florida—In 24 hours, John Kerry's political braintrust went from talking up a stumbling campaign, to playing down soaring hopes after pundits and polls handed him the first presidential debate.

The veteran senator's strong showing in Thursday's nailbiting faceoff against President George W. Bush injected a palpable jolt of enthusiasm through his camp.

Activists, supporters and jaded campaign workers, who endured a miserable six weeks while Bush pounded Kerry over Iraq, the Democrat's military record was ripped in Republican friendly advertising, looked to the sprint up to the Nov. 2 polls with new hope.

And Kerry himself appeared loose, edging away from the often stiff and starchy performances on the stump at two rallies in the crucial swing-state of Florida, hours after his clash with Bush at the University of Miami.

Though he was preaching to the choir, Kerry coaxed his audience along, changing the tone and volume of his voice, at times playing the statesman, and others the stand-up comic.


KERRY

In previous months, Kerry's booming but boring style of delivery—compared by one wit to a man hailing a ship, has provided rich fodder for opponents.

But the watchword Friday, from the top down was: no complacency, especially as the veteran Massachusetts Senator went into the debate trailing Bush between five and eight percent in most polls.

"Oh, no, no, no, let me make it clear to everybody, we have to win every day between now and Nov. 2," Kerry told a rally in Tampa.

Joe Lockhart, former White House press secretary who joined Kerry to try to bring some Clintonian finesse to his campaign, struck a similar note.

"Winning the debate does not mean winning the election," he said on MSNBC.

Another former Clinton White House press spokesperson, Mike McCurry, also dampened down expectations that the debate would spark an immediate spike in Kerry's opinion poll ratings.

But he argued that Kerry strategists were encouraged at anecdotal evidence that the "internal dynamic" of the race was changing, just a month before polling day.

"We believe people are taking a new, fresh look, and that's a very important achievement for us in the debate."

But while the pundits and pollsters plumped for Kerry after the debate, which saw Bush at times irritated at his challenger's prosecutorial line of questioning, it remains uncertain how much the race has changed. *AFP*

WORLDBRIEFS

India blasts kill 22

GUWAHATI, India—A series of bomb blasts killed 22 people and wounded 92 in northeastern India on Saturday in the deadliest attack since a ceasefire with the main separatist group in Nagaland began seven years ago. Another bomb exploded in the neighboring state of Assam killing one man at about the same time. Police said the two attacks appeared to be unrelated. Two bombs exploded in a marketplace in Nagaland's commercial center, Dimapur, and one at a crowded railway station, an officer at the local police station said. The blasts in Christian-majority Nagaland could have been set off by any of several smaller separatist groups that are not part of the truce with the Indian government, officials said. ***Reuters***

Pakistan suicide bombing

SIALKOT, Pakistan—Hundreds of Shiite Muslim youths went on a rampage, setting fire to a police station and the mayor's office in an eastern Pakistan city, after a mass funeral for victims of a suicide bombing at a mosque that killed 25 people. Rioters also burned a record room of a court in Sialkot and torched several motorcycles parked outside the police station. Firefighters rushed to the scene and put out the fires, while troops tried to restore order. The violence broke out after mourners, beating their chests and wailing, gathered en masse for a funeral of victims of Friday's bombing at the Zainabia mosque, which also wounded more than 50 people. The attack came less than a week after Pakistani security forces killed Amjad Hussain Farooqi, a top Pakistani al-Qaida operative who was a member of a radical Sunni Muslim militant group—fueling speculation the bombing was retaliation for his death. ***AP***

Blair's heart op over

BLAIR

LONDON—Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair underwent successful heart surgery on Friday and returned home looking relaxed following a surprise vow to serve a record third term and deny rivals power for five more years. "I'm absolutely fine thanks," a smiling Blair said as he arrived at Downing Street after leaving hospital earlier than expected. "The hospital staff, the nurses, the doctors were brilliant." Blair's bombshell announcement—twinning his health woes with a drawn-out exit strategy—sparked frenzied talk of how long he can go on and whether the premier was blocking his de facto No. 2, finance minister Gordon Brown. The news was intended to quell talk of a handover to Brown after next year's expected election win but in fact revealed his ambition to become the only Labor leader to win three straight terms and the one who out-serves "Iron Lady" Margaret Thatcher. ***Reuters***

Iraq kidnappers

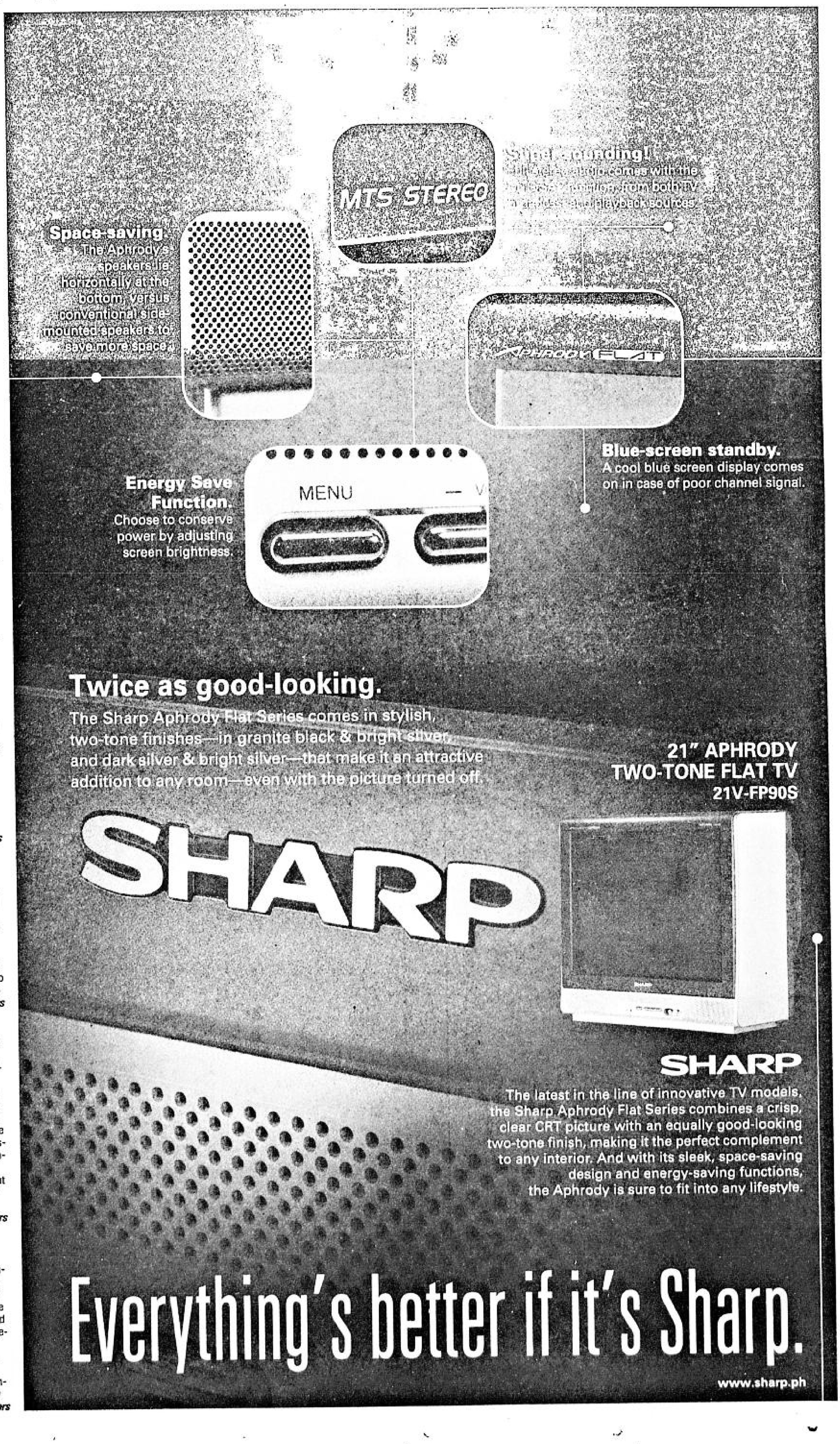
DUBAI—An Iraqi militant group claiming to have kidnapped two Indonesian women said it would release them if Jakarta freed a Muslim cleric detained on suspected terror links, Al Jazeera television reported on Saturday. "The Islamic Army in Iraq put a condition to the Indonesian government to release Abu Bakar Bashir in return for freeing the two Indonesian hostages," the Arab channel said, quoting what it said was a statement by the group. It gave no further details. Six Iraqis and two Lebanese were also kidnapped by the group, Al Jazeera said. ***Reuters***

9 killed in Gaza

GAZA—The Israeli Army killed nine Palestinians in Gaza on Friday as it poured its forces into the coastal strip, expanding a ground offensive intended to root out militants firing rockets into Israeli towns. A Palestinian security source reported that about 200 Israeli tanks and armored vehicles were seen operating in north Gaza, which the Army said was the source of the rocket launches. Twenty-nine Palestinians and three Israelis were killed on Thursday in Gaza in its bloodiest day in four years of conflict. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his security Cabinet on Thursday ordered the Army to carve out a "buffer zone" to halt rocket attacks that have fueled criticism of his plan to withdraw Jewish settlers from the territory by the end of 2005. ***Reuters***

Australia suicides

SYDNEY—Four Australian men have committed suicide after being caught up in an investigation into child Internet pornography that has resulted in more than 200 arrested and charged for 2,000 offenses, police said on Saturday. The four men, one in Western Australia state, two in Victoria state and one in Queensland state, killed themselves after being interviewed by police. Two had been charged with pornography offenses. Police launched Australia's biggest child pornography crackdown on Thursday, raiding 400 premises and arresting hundreds of people, including police, teachers, clergy and a child-care center owner. ***Reuters***



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OPINION

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Democracy at work

EDITORIAL

EARLIER this year, when debates among the presidential candidates were proposed, the leading opposition candidate said no and the administration candidate also declined to participate. In contrast, the Americans had on Friday the first of three scheduled presidential (with one additional vice-presidential) debates before their elections in November.

The tradition of a presidential debate has become so ingrained in the American political system that despite the obvious reluctance of the Bush administration to debate, it eventually had to agree to it, anyway. Along the way, the Bush campaign made so many demands so that the list of guidelines for the debate filled up 36 pages. Still, neither the opposition Democrats nor the American networks gave the Republicans a way out.

This is in marked contrast to the decision of the two prima donnas who were the leading contenders in our last elections. Fernando Poe Jr. felt so inadequate about debating while President Macapagal-Arroyo had too low an opinion of her countrymen to think a debate was worth her while. Both candidates abdicated their responsibility to educate people and illumine their minds.

Was the American presidential debate illuminating? That remains to be determined once what was said during the debate has sunk in. The undeniable fact, however, is that at the very least an effort was made by the candidates to clarify their position on very important issues. The voters, at the very least, cannot say they were deprived of a chance to hear the candidates address issues that were of vital importance to their future.

The debate focused on foreign policy, with subsequent debates expected to focus on domestic issues and then on both. Again, this is in marked contrast to the absolute absence of any meaningful discourse during our presidential elections. The Poe campaign, for one, was content to substitute a wish list for actual policy, while the President, in seeking reelection, kept her campaigning to a list of patronage-based promises. There was so much in common with the platforms of the two candidates that it was clear the only difference between them was their sex—and their supporters.

The circumstances surrounding the American presidential debates illustrate the strength of American democracy despite its increasingly superficial nature. There are still traditions that are so ingrained that even if candidates don't want to, they are still forced to live up to the better habits of the past. One of these better habits is the belief that candidates have the obligation to show they have the courage to face each other, and conduct a civilized discussion on the issues that all agree to be important.

All the more is the need for a national debate when a country faces pressing problems. In recent years an appropriate term has become popular for this: "to ventilate." We need more ideas and thoughts ventilated by our leaders to spark interest and discussion among the public. We need to see our leaders showing maturity, self-control and initiative by engaging each other in public discussion. Instead, what we've seen over the past years has been too much carping.

In recent weeks we've heard fewer and fewer major policy announcements from the President. The few that have been made haven't drawn appropriate responses from the opposition. And what is an appropriate response? It is one that offers an alternative to what the administration has proposed in order to address certain questions.

Voting machines

FOREIGN COMMENT

AMERICANS will have to hold their breaths and hope for minimal voting problems on Nov. 2. Four years after the Florida voting fiasco, our ability to ensure a smooth, accurate election count leaves much to be desired.

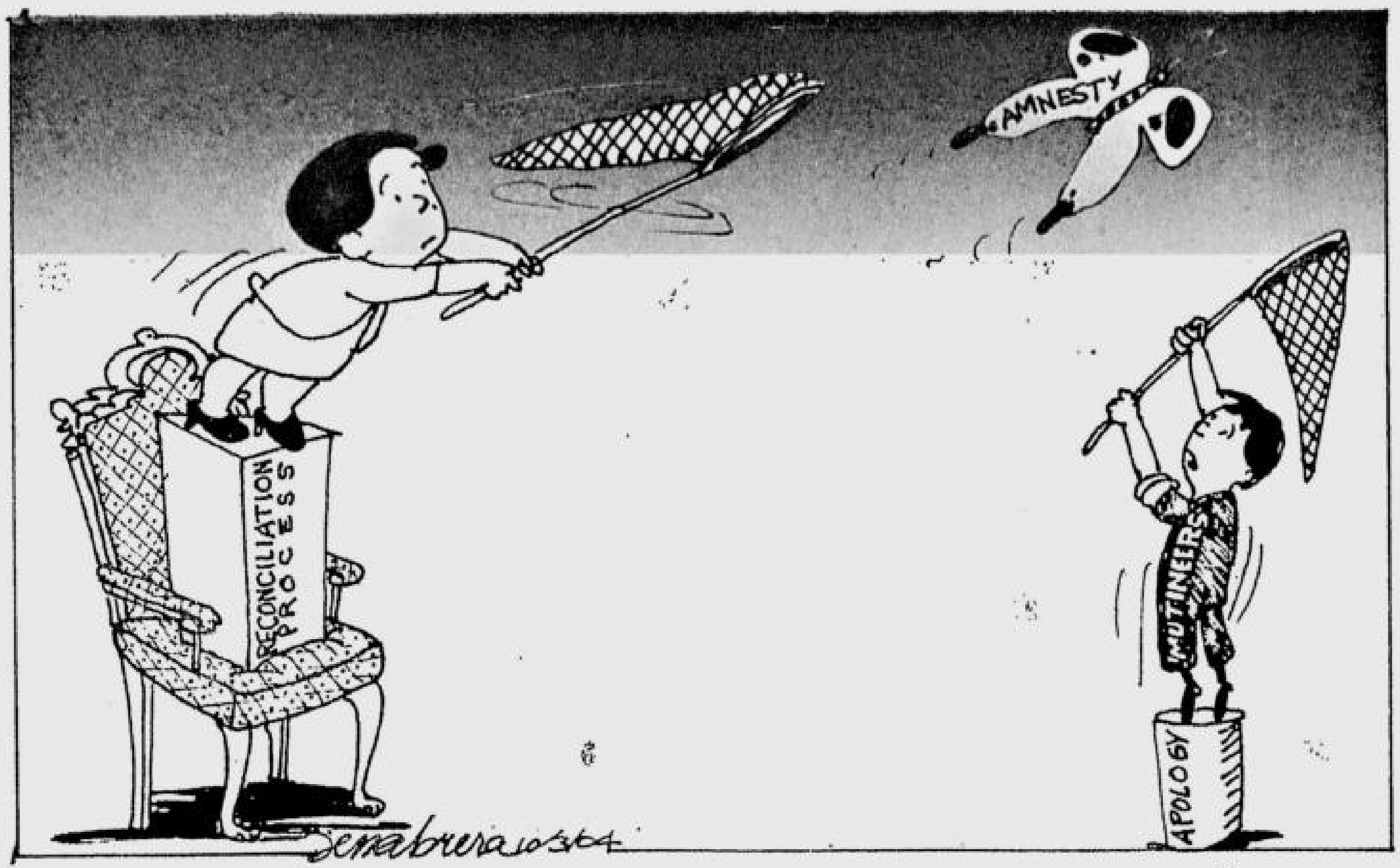
No election can be conducted without potential for error or fraud.

New problems arise, though, as we move forward. Touch screen voting must have a paper trail, so recounts can be conducted. Secretary of State Sam Reed wisely has ordered paper records for the 2006 election. Congress has so far failed to follow suit on the federal level.

A host of other ideas has arisen, including having large stacks of paper ballots available at all polling places in case of machine problems.

Secrecy ought to disappear from the systems for testing software in voting machines. There must also be a serious look at the legitimate questions raised about the political ties between voting-machine manufacturers and Republicans.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer (Seattle)



The Oakwood affair again

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

IN APOLOGIZING for the Oakwood mutiny last year, its leaders who were so brave and even arrogant before have confessed to their crime of plotting to usurp the legitimate government of the Philippines and replace it with their own brand of military adventurism. After a few days of swagger, during which they impressed not a few sympathizers and malcontents dissatisfied with the present regime, they meekly surrendered to the lawful authorities and were placed under detention to face prosecution for their rebellion.

Many people praised them for their idealism in resisting the irregularities being committed in the Armed Forces of the Philippines to which they belonged, and the failure of their superior officers to cleanse the institution of its widespread venalities. They claimed they had even complained of their disenchantment to the President as their commander in chief but to no avail. Even the Feliciano Commission, which was later created to investigate their aborted uprising, recognized the reasons for their discontent while at the same time reproving them for their methods in trying to solve it.

The apology expressed by the junior officers elicited general approbation, particularly from the top officials of the country led by President Macapagal-Arroyo herself, who said she felt no rancor against them although it was her government they sought to destroy. Others said it was a good ending for the unfortunate affair. There was a discordant note from the counsel of the accused young men who asked why, if the apology had already been accepted, his clients were still under detention.

I for one am not impressed by the apology and do not share in the jubilation. To answer that confused counsel, his clients are still in the stockade because they have not yet been acquitted nor have the charges against them been withdrawn by the government.

And, of course, they cannot be pardoned at this time because a pardon can be extended by the President only after the conviction of the accused. That is what the Oakwood rebels are looking forward to, which is the real reason for their contrition at this time.

There is no question that they will be convicted of the court martial charges; their public and voluntary confession of being guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman has seen to that beyond the whisper of a doubt. Such offense carries with it a heavy penalty in imprisonment as well as the end of the life career for which they have prepared themselves and the future they could reasonably expect if they had not allowed themselves to be misled by their advisers. These advisers have conveniently absented themselves from the sordid affair that has enmeshed their believing pupils even as they themselves are enjoying undeserved liberty.

The Oakwood mutineers are no longer the young idealists they were a year ago. Now they have become hard-nosed pragmatists, a little wounded and scarred, to be sure, but definitely much wiser and practical now, like those safer in the higher line of command. They have realized that there is not much point in holding fast to their principles when they can do this only in the confinement of their prison cells while the military superiors they have denounced continue to savor their ill-gotten gains and enjoy their still honored names.

An accompanying report in this paper described the financial difficulties of the rebels, who have not received their salaries for more than a year since they mounted their their armed challenge to the government. As military men, they should have known the basic rule that an army marches on its stomach. They had funds for their insignia and arm bands and their hotel accommodations and that caricature of a Philippine flag to identify their illicit group, but they did not have the foresight to provide for the needs of their families. Did they expect to seize the National Treasury and its empty coffers?

I am almost done with these reflections about this serio-comic exploit of the future generals of our country except to ask this remaining significant question: Who was their leader? The Philippine Revolution of 1896 was led by young and courageous activists, but none of the Oakwood mutineers had their vision and energy, not to mention courage. As for their general, he would remain secret until his hirelings will have succeeded, when he would then conveniently step forward as their Leader. Who was this clever *segurista*?

Former Secretary Joey Lina of the Department of Interior and Local Government was sure it was then Sen. Gregorio Honasan, but the experienced coup d'etat leader during the administration of President Aquino has not been touched so far. He questioned his investigation by the Department of Justice but was not sustained by the Supreme Court. That investigation, however, has produced no results so far. Perhaps Lina can testify against Honasan in that probe so we can determine what role, if any, the respondent former senator played in that unfortunate Oakwood affair. The public has a right to know who was the prime culprit of that pathetic exploit gone kaput.

Beyond self

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a patient who told his psychiatrist that life is so lonely in the hospital, so he wrote himself a long letter. When asked what the content of the letter was, his response was "Oh, I don't know yet, doctor, because I will still receive it next week!"

* * *

The Gospel today (Lk. 17, 5-10) speaks about true discipleship as servanthood and service beyond self, with no expectation of receiving a reward. Those who serve must serve selflessly and must not expect perks and fireworks. "We are no more than servants; we have only done our duty." Every civil and religious servant would do well to bear in mind this biblical message always as they go about discharging their duties.

* * *

I grew up in a family of public servants, at a time when public service was a source of pride and honor and not a source of wealth. For mama, duty meant going to the barrio school some five kilometers away from the town—every day, rain or shine, even if she had to walk the whole distance at times when there was no ride. For Papa, it meant going in an old surplus jeep to his austere office at the South harbor every day and making himself available and accessible to all sorts of people. They didn't preach sacrifice. They showed sacrifice.

* * *

We have a confrere who is home from his mission for a much needed rest and medication. Father Jun, SVD is home from Siberia, where the temperature can go down to as much as 30 degrees in deep winter. Aside from the severe weather conditions, Father Jun, like any missionary, has to grapple with the difficult language and adapt to the food and culture of the place. And then there is always the presence of loneliness and homesickness. I asked him what keeps him going, and his answer was simple: duty and mission. "As Christ stayed on, so I must stay on."

I was edified and inspired when he told me that, in his loneliest and most difficult moments, he would find again reason and strength to go on by just embracing his mission cross. When he came home to the Philippines, there was no marching bands or banners to welcome him. And he will go back to his mission as quietly as he came in.

Yes, we have in our midst many nameless people who do their duty quietly, without much fanfare, and without much fuss. And without earthly rewards. But they just do it. No big deal. Discipleship at its best.

* * *

Another confrere is home to bury his 75-year-old father. Fr. Jerry Soncog, SVD, our missionary to Madagascar since 1998, would have liked to stay near his parents especially in their sunset years, but he chose to go where the Lord sent him. In the eyes of the world, his sacrifice of leaving country, family and career doesn't make sense at all. Faced with the cross, a selfish, worldly person would say "that's beyond me," while a true disciple would say "that's fine with me."

* * *

Another missionary has gone back home to the Heavenly Father. I can never forget Sr. Idmara Nolledo, S.Sp.S. who was our group mother when we were first year high school here at Christ the King Seminary. This simple, joyful and dedicated sister from Mindoro left a dear and lasting impression on me as a young boy. I can never forget how she taught us how to pray. What impressed me most was her humility and self-deprecation. She was well on her way to becoming the superior of the Mission Congregation of the Servants of the Holy Spirit (S.Sp.S.) when a rare sickness disabled her speech and motor abilities. Even in her pain and sufferings, she always exuded joy, hope and life. She was such a giving person, as in give *na* give, unlike many of us who claim to serve but are only serving with one give, two gives, three gives. Here was a person who gave to so many nameless people without expecting them to remember his/her act of kindness.

* * *

Let us ask the Blessed Mother especially in this month of the rosary to give us civil and religious leaders who really give and who really serve. We have too many of them who get and who serve themselves. Let us ask her to remove from our midst leaders who are so greedy, corrupt and never go beyond themselves.

* * *

At the end of our lives, when we finally face our Creator, may we all be able to say with all humility and with deep gratitude "Mission accomplished, Lord!" In the meantime, let us continue to give without counting the cost, and without calculating our rewards here and in the hereafter.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to look beyond myself and to go beyond my selfish interests and agenda. Amen.

* * *

E-mail: jorbos@manila-online.net

Fat cat is also a Volvo man

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

FIRST of all, my congratulations to the officers and men of the 205th Tactical Helicopter Wing of the Philippine Air Force, under the command of Brig. Gen. Pedro Inserto, who recently celebrated their 52nd Foundation Day at the Villamor Airbase in Pasay City. Kudos also go to the 505th Search and Rescue Group under Col. Ricardo Banayat. Both units were in the forefront of humanitarian missions during the devastating floods which hit Central Luzon last August. You can always count on our flyboys to operate under all kinds of weather conditions, sunny or stormy, when the lives of our people are at stake.

Slowly we are building up our helicopter fleet as more choppers arrive from Singapore purchased under the modernization program of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Modernization may not be the most accurate term to describe the program, but the end result is to provide the Air Force with additional assets which would increase air support for our units in the field. An aggressive recovery or restoration schedule by the Air Force is a complementary move also aimed at increasing the number of operational aircraft that will be available for use at any moment. If we can boost our helicopter fleet to respectable levels, we will have the capability to better address the different threats to our national security. They may not be as glamorous as the fighter jets which we used to operate in modest numbers in the past, but the slow-moving helicopters are now the workhorses of the Philippine Air Force.

* * *

Last June 23, GSIS president and general manager Winston F. Garcia filed a loan application with the GSIS for P2.14 million. Deducting a 12 percent interest rate plus service fees and other charges, the net amount of the salary loan came up to P1.5 million. It was approved on the same day that the application was filed. Nothing really surprising considering his position. Who in his right mind would dare scrutinize his papers with a fine-tooth comb? What was amazing though was Garcia's comments regarding his request. He said his application underwent the same process as that accorded to any other ordinary member of the GSIS, adding "that shows I am not getting any extra privileges as president and general manager. I was treated like an ordinary GSIS member." The loan was for the purpose of buying a brand-new Volvo automobile since he was having trouble with his old car. Was the transaction legal? Definitely. Was it ethical? Akbayan party-list Rep. Mario J. Aguja says "It is unethical for someone who heads an institution to borrow money from that institution while its members cannot be served faithfully." I guess it is a matter of good judgment and sensitivity. As an old poker friend used to say during our weekly sessions, "either you has it or you hasn't."

Somehow I was reminded of my posting in Indonesia after the Edsa Revolution. At receptions hosted by the government or the diplomatic corps in Jakarta, one would notice a queue of official limousines lining up to discharge or pick up their occupants. They were all black Volvos, a pricey European car which apparently was the favorite of the Suharto regime. Each cabinet minister was allocated one unit. The Volvo is definitely a comfortable car but a bit on the expensive side.

From the soundbites coming from Malacañang, it appears that President Macapagal-Arroyo is reluctant to let go of Garcia. First she said that she was leaving the matter up to the Department of Finance to decide the fate of the GSIS executive. But as I recall, it was not too long ago that the finance department submitted its findings on Garcia's management of the government institution. That was before the elections. Then, just a few days ago, the President advised Garcia to "explain to the public his side on the controversies hounding him." Perhaps it was her way of saying you're OK with me but talk to the people. Garcia says he is "deeply touched" by her continuing support, but in politics one can never be too sure what tomorrow may bring.

All this kid glove treatment of Garcia is not doing the President any good. Already the criticisms are beginning to target the Palace and, if effective damage control measures are not instituted, the protests may generate more discontent and unrest. This sort of controversy is the last thing the President needs as a fiscal crisis looms large on the horizon.

The late US President Harry Truman used to have a small sign on his desk which read: "The Buck Stops Here." It was made by inmates of a federal prison in Oklahoma and given by a close friend to remind the president that "there was no end to the chain of responsibility that binds him and that he could never be allowed to forget that he is the president."

* * *

Yesterday was the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mario and Inday Nery. They were wed in October 1954 in the Archbishop's Palace in Cagayan de Oro, with mentor Fr. William Masterson, S.J. officiating. Mario is currently the president of the Pastoral Council of the Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish. His other civic involvement has been with the Philippine National Red Cross where he was formerly the chairman. At present, he is a member of its Board of Governors. He is also chairman of the Development Commission of the Red Cross Federation in Geneva. The commission is responsible for the strategic directions of the 196-member Red Cross organization for the next 10 years. We wish the couple many more years of good health and happiness—and more grandchildren. At last count, they had 17.

Following the US elections

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

LAOAG—I'm writing this inside the campus of the Divine Word College of Laoag, where my husband and I are acting as resource persons for a workshop on campus publications. Last Thursday, after flying in via PAL from Manila, we rested for a bit and then proceeded to Claveria, Cagayan to address students—most of them high school campus journalists—from three schools: the Academy of St. Joseph in Claveria, the Divine Word High School in Sanchez Mira, and the Divine Word High School in Danaili.

Because Sanchez Mira and Danaili are quite a distance from Claveria, the organizers of the workshop decided to make the students sleep over, and as we left St. Joseph's, we espied the girls laying out native mats on the floor of one classroom, chatting excitedly and ruing the fact that they were missing their favorite soap operas.

Together my brother, Fr. Boboy Jimenez, SVD, and our host, Fr. Syl Mutia, SVD, we were billeted in the nearby SVD District House. Father Mutia, a Mindanaoan who has been based in the north since his ordination, is currently assigned as school director for all three high schools. Our other hosts in Claveria were Fr. Jacobus Sanbiko, SVD, the father in-charge of the house, Fr. Nic Vergara, SVD, the parish priest, and Pablito Planta, principal of the Academy of St. Joseph.

Claveria happens to be the northernmost town of the island of Luzon. From its shores, one can take trips by *batel*, a large ocean-going banca, to the Babuyan Islands and to Fuga Island.

Remote as it is, the town has not been left out by information technology. Cable TV is available, and most of the students are aware of shows like "The Amazing Race."

Just as we were beginning our sessions on Friday morning, Father Boboy disappeared. Earlier, he had made excuses to watch the first of the US presidential debates, focusing on national security, between George W. Bush and John Kerry. The debate was to be carried live on CNN, and Father Boboy was quite keen to catch the exchange.

* * *

HE came back quite enthused, reporting that Kerry had held his own against "Dubya," a pleasant surprise, he said, because he had expected the Democratic candidate to be trounced on the issue of national security.

Later that day, back in Laoag, he was fuming over dinner over the analysis made by "that blonde lady" on Fox TV who apparently thought Bush prevailed.

I'm sure Father Boboy wasn't the only Filipino avidly watching the televised debate and keenly following the US presidential elections. Despite efforts of educators and the media to make Filipinos more aware of our neighbors in Asia or, at the very least, Southeast Asia, our eyes are still trained on our former colonizer.

Quick, what's the name of the Indonesian presidential candidate who most reports claim has soundly beaten Megawati Sukarnoputri? With no access to the Internet right now, I must confess I don't know his name, either.

But surely most of us know that at the moment the elections in America have been described as "too close to call," with Kerry narrowing the already narrow lead of Bush. And while in other US elections Filipino interest in the outcome could be dismissed as a symptom of our colonial mentality, this time around, there IS good reason to care who wins.

Women especially, but in particular women in the developing world, should care. Ever since George W. Bush walked into the White House, he has reversed so much of the progress made in the struggle for sexual and reproductive rights worldwide. And by withholding or withdrawing financial support for agencies carrying out programs promoting reproductive health, he has condemned hundreds of thousands of women and children to illness and death.

* * *

THAT'S also the reason why women and reproductive health advocates in the United States are stepping up their campaign for Kerry and the Democrats. Carla Marinucci, in an article published in the San Francisco Chronicle, says that the United States has become so politically polarized that "an estimated 8 to 10 percent of swing voters will probably determine the outcome" of the 2004 vote.

"The ever-narrowing competition has required a new ground game, new players and energetic legions of workers," writes Marinucci.

One of the volunteers Marinucci interviewed was Laura Lopez, 20, a student at the San Francisco City College who is working for the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, the political arm of the organization in the United States, better known for providing a wide range of reproductive health services.

Lopez's target is clear: to get unmarried women, most of them younger than 25, to go out and vote, and to vote for Kerry because it would mean that the services that Planned Parenthood provides would still be available in the future.

* * *

"I TALK about what would happen if the funding was cut (as it was indeed cut by Bush). It gets their attention," Marinucci quotes Lopez.

Planned Parenthood Action Fund is not the only advocacy group focusing on the "margins." Marinucci, quoting experts, says "it makes sense for such organizations to invest the time, money and people into wooing voters who previously may have been considered hardly worth the effort."

Phil Trounstine, a political scientist, adds that "when you have a starkly divided electorate and a narrow band of people who are undecided, every targeted campaign becomes important."

In Planned Parenthood's case, its strategy of going after non-voters, "mostly minority women and young people turned off by the political system," could have a rich payoff. Such voters "tend to be Democrats," says an expert, and "when you're down to 10 percent of undecided voters...it makes sense to get every one you can."

Why Filipinos like Bush

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IF Filipinos in the Philippines were voting in the American presidential election, they would give George W. Bush a landslide win over his rival, John Kerry.

Bush is our kind of leader. Like him, we see the world as either black or white. The moral lenses we use divide nations into good or evil, friends or enemies. We do not argue with our enemies, we speak force to them. We prefer bluntness over nuance, decisiveness over deliberation, toughness over intelligence.

Kerry is too soft for us. Too educated and too refined, he is too weak to lead a world whose survival demands the crudeness of a street-fighter rather than the sensitivity of a morally burdened intellectual. The world needs a strong America, and America needs a warrior, not a thinker.

This is the mentality of all colonial dependents, people who despise their own weakness and find easy security in the shadow of bullies. Having turned their back on a legacy of struggle and freedom, they cannot suffer those who continue to oppose domination. The latter's resistance, blind as it may be, assails their own acquiescence.

This mind-set is reinforced when they go abroad. They cannot stand living beside other subordinate immigrants. They assume the bigotry of new converts, and they detest being treated like all the others. The voice of these "New Americans" is exemplified by Michelle Malkin, a journalist of Filipino ancestry, who authored a book titled "Invasion" (Regnery Publishing, 2002). This is her perspective:

"As a first-generation American, I am the new face of the immigration debate. I am sick and tired of watching our government allow illegal line-jumpers, killers, and America-haters to flood our gates and threaten our safety. I am sick and tired of watching ethnic minority leaders cry 'racism' whenever Congress attempts to shore up our borders. And I am especially sick and tired of business leaders, lobbyists, and lawmakers from both major parties caving in and selling out our national security. I believe in immigrant profiling. I believe we should discriminate in favor of foreigners yearning to live the American Dream—and against foreigners yearning to destroy it."

"Profiling" simply means constructing the image of a person on the basis of certain characteristics associated with the group to which he or she belongs. This is what is done in "offender-profiling." A beard or goatee, an Islamic-sounding name, one's country of origin, professional background, race or religion, etc. could, with profiling, trigger a whole course of focused scrutiny or outright detention. Whether acknowledged or not, visa screening rests almost entirely on profiling procedures. What is even more dangerous is that the new post-9/11 legislation in the United States today combines extensive use of profiling with the absolute power to detain all suspicious persons without explanation.

Just because our government is friendly to the United States and supported its war in Iraq does not mean Filipinos will be treated any better at the American Embassy or at US ports of entry. One wonders what good can come out of George W. Bush's habit of lumping the Philippines with Iraq and Afghanistan whenever he refers to the global war on terror. In the first presidential debate in Miami this week, he again made terrorism wear a Filipino face: "But the front on this war is more than just one place. The Philippines... we've got help... we're helping them there to bring al-Qaida affiliates to justice there." Manila is certainly not Baghdad or Kabul, and Mindanao is not Fallujah. Why do we rejoice when the US president refers to our country in this light?

In May this year, a Filipino professor, Abhoud Syed Lingga was stopped at the Los Angeles airport after disembarking from a plane. He was on his way to participate in a series of meetings and fora on Mindanao organized by the United Nations and the US Institute of Peace. He had all the official letters of invitation and a visa from the US Embassy in Manila. But he was from Mindanao and the authorities did not like the sound of his name. His sponsors could not help him; he was sent back on the same plane to Manila.

Yet every day, thousands of Filipinos are undeterred as they line up at the US Embassy and psychologically prepare themselves for questions that routinely challenge their self-respect. Most of them are wasting their time and money. Every Filipino visa applicant is regarded as a potential illegal migrant or worse, a terrorist. Michelle Malkin wants decent Filipino travelers and immigrants to be spared this kind of treatment. But that will not happen as long as the US president considers the Philippines a home of al-Qaida affiliates and a major front in the war against global terror.

The whole world has become a more dangerous place because of Bush. America has earned more enemies because of its decision to invade Iraq without the authority of the United Nations. Americans feel more insecure because of this. And yet ironically, it is this very insecurity that is creating a false need for somebody like Bush. John Kerry is wrong to allow Bush to define terrorism as the key issue in this election. He sounds pathetic when he says, "I believe in being strong and resolved and determined. And I will hunt down and kill terrorists wherever they are." For all his simple-mindedness, no one can speak that line better than Bush.

No, the issue is not global terrorism, but America's behavior in the world.

* * *

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

Can Bambang change Indonesia?

SUSILO Bambang Yudhoyono has won a staggering personal mandate. The 55-year-old former general from the small town of Pacitan in East Java has undergone an extraordinarily grueling political baptism—almost unprecedented in Asia—to emerge as Indonesia's sixth president.

This robust democratic process and Bambang's successful handling of its various (and often messy) challenges will enhance his reputation globally. Moreover, his achievement as the incoming leader of the world's largest Muslim nation will underline the fact that Islam and democracy are not mutually exclusive ideas.

EYE ON ASIA

Karim Raslan

The victory will also create waves across Southeast Asia, given that both Malaysia and Singapore, for example, have far more circumscribed political systems. It may also prompt Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra to re-assess the wisdom of attempting to roll back his country's democratic achievements.

Bambang had to face countless high-profile and feisty live TV debates and tough newspaper interviews with Indonesia's increasingly independent media. After eight months of intensive national campaigning and three grueling electoral contests, Bambang's legitimacy is therefore hard-earned and rock-solid.

At the same time, his popularity is genuine and nationwide—notwithstanding attempts to blacken his reputation as a racist, and as an Islamicist, on the one hand, and a pro-American toady, on the other.

Similarly, objections to his military background have also been overcome through a combination of his quintessentially Javanese and understated personal style and his willingness to subject himself to public scrutiny. However, anti-military feelings run deep and many observers will be watching the president-elect's ties with the military very closely.

Still, the surprising margin of victory—he leads the incumbent Megawati Sukarnoputri by well over 20 percent of the popular vote—means he will be in a position to re-draw Indonesia's political landscape.

Certainly, Bambang wants to win over the legislature; his own Democrat Party holds no more than 7 percent of the seats. In this respect, the newly introduced direct presidential polls have undermined the power of traditional political elites (exemplified by the morally compromised Akbar Tanjung, leader of the Golkar party) with their culture of backroom deal-making.

Both Bambang and his deputy Jusuf Kalla will seek to co-opt allies from, and build bridges with, the two largest parties, Golkar and the Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle (PDI-P). Together, the two parties control 307 of the 550 seats in the legislature.

The incoming president will also enjoy a remarkable degree of flexibility as he selects his cabinet. As a former security minister in Megawati's administration, he understands the need to set out a clear direction, both in terms of policy and ethical behavior.

Moreover, Bambang's breadth of experience and his attention to detail will mean he will want to involve himself with policymaking and implementation in a manner quite unlike any other Indonesian president. This could cause a logjam if Bambang proves unable to delegate effectively.

Bambang will focus his attention on the economy, drumming up foreign direct investment, tackling law and order—addressing the strife in Aceh, improving Indonesia's competitiveness, reforming the country's fiendishly expensive kerosene subsidies, and focusing the security apparatus on the terrorist threat.

His offensive against extremist networks will cause concern among the country's many human rights activists, but their criticisms will be drowned out by the approval he will receive from a population weary of terrorist attacks on Indonesian soil.

There is no doubt he will want to include a number of independent professional figures in his Cabinet—men and women with real credibility and integrity. In so doing, he will be able to signal the seriousness of his administration to both domestic and international audiences.

Ideally, these figures should be non-partisan and respected by the business community. This means that Megawati's economic czar, Boediono, may well be retained. However, it is possible that economists such as the International Monetary Fund's Southeast Asia executive director, Sri Mulyani Indrawati, and think-tanker Mari E Pangestu may end up playing important roles, as will lawyer Todung Mulya Lubis.

Other names being bandied around are the human rights activist Marsillam Simanjuntak and the educationalist Azyurmadi Azra.

The campaigning has also showed incoming Vice President Jusuf Kalla's limitations. His straight-dealing manner and pro-*pribumi* (indigenous Indonesians) rhetoric caused a minor crisis within Bambang's team just before the final run-off as prominent ethnic Chinese figures moved away from the former general.

Bambang will now seek to limit Jusuf's role and assert his authority in economic matters once again.

The professionals will be matched by Bambang's inner circle of advisors—people such as Rachmat Witoelar, an experienced political hand (he was a former secretary general of Golkar), and the economist Joyo Winoto. They will be used to balance the prominent role played by former military officers in Bambang's team.

At the same time, Bambang will have to accommodate some of the political parties that supported his candidacy. In this respect, the incoming president will want to be circumspect, since much of this political support emanates from the more conservative Islamic parties, such as Parti Bulan Bintang (Crescent Moon Party) led by the widely distrusted Yusril Mahendra, and the Parti Keadilan Sejahtera (Truth and Justice Party).

Indonesia's gains in terms of civil liberties must now be matched by socio-economic "deliverables." If Southeast Asia wants to see a real boost in the region's performance, we will need Bambang to deliver on his promises of good governance.

As many potential investors grow wary of China's exponential growth and an inevitable downturn, Indonesia's emergence as a full-fledged democracy with a well-managed economy can only help to spur Southeast Asia's profile internationally.

* * *

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

UP 11 plan: Can it keep RP afloat? (6)

About P700 billion to P1 trillion in income would be lost over the next two to three years if the government failed to implement a fiscal plan involving new taxes and higher power rates, according to Dean Raul Fabella of the University of the Philippines School of Economics.

He urged the Senate committees on economic affairs and trade, and on commerce to adopt the plan so that the losses would be limited to about P150 billion.

"The other side of it is 'what if we do nothing?' We let the fiscal crisis bomb explode in our faces," said Fabella, one of the 11 professors at the UPSE who wrote the paper "The Deepening Crisis: The Real Score on Deficits and the Public Debt." It warns of economic collapse unless the government reins in the public sector deficit and debt through revenue and cost-saving measures.

The economy, however, would contract or slow down if the government were to implement the measures all at the same time, according to an official of the National Economic and Development Authority.

Dr. Edberto Villegas claims that the measures proposed by the UP 11 are in line with International Monetary Fund prescriptions, which have been found to have adversely affected the poor and the children. For him, the solution is not to raise taxes, which he says will just exacerbate the misery of the poor, but to renegotiate the country's debts and reverse tariff agreements that have deprived the government billions of pesos in customs revenues.

Fiscal crisis and the neo-colonial state (UP group's prescription will make Filipinos poorer)

By Dr. Edberto M. Villegas

The fiscal crisis is the worst ever in the history of the country, and is the government's own doing. As of end-2003, the consolidated public debt of the government, which includes those of government-owned and -controlled corporations and other government entities, whose liabilities are not stated in the annual national budget, had already reached P5.9 trillion or 137 percent of gross domestic product. The Philippines has the largest public debt in Asia with the Arroyo administration accumulating debts to the tune of P1.2 billion a day!

Solutions being offered by a group of professors at the University of the Philippines School of Economics will further impoverish the people.

Globalization

In a position paper, 11 UP economics professors came up with measures, which are mostly in the same vein as those of the government and which reiterate the usual International Monetary Fund (IMF) policy prescriptions for the Philippines and other Third World countries to confront their debt problems.

They adopt the neo-liberal free-market framework under the aegis of globalization or a policy of an open economy. These are privatization, especially of National Power Corp. (Napocor); deregulation, or what the group calls the abolition of the "politicization of prices;" and liberalization of tariffs.

For liberalization of tariffs, the UP group is particularly opposed to increasing the tariffs on oil imports, because, according to them, "international commitments prevent significant tariff adjustments," a shortcoming which is not, however, "encountered when the tax is domestic."

IMF prescription

With this self-assurance, the UP group recommends various domestic tax increases, including an additional tax on petroleum and a two-percent increase in value-added tax (VAT), which was first advocated by the IMF in the 1989 memorandum of agreement of the Aquino administration with this institution. (The US is the dominant country in the IMF, with its biggest share in the Fund's capital and choice of its director general).

It is instructive to note a United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) study conducted on a sample of 56 countries, including the Philippines, to determine the impact on the poor of IMF-World Bank's various stabilization and structural adjustment programs to hurdle their fiscal and trade deficits from 1980 to 1985. The Unicef study concludes that these programs had "poverty-inducing effects" especially on the "poorest and children in particular…" In the 1990s, a series of economic crisis wracked the former USSR, Brazil, Argentina and Indonesia, which have also been victims of the policies of privatization, deregulation and liberalization of the IMF-WB. It can be said that dire lessons in history are not learned by those who benefit from them.

An IMF post-program monitoring team visited the Philippines in June 2004 to find out how the government is abiding by its commitments to balancing its budget. The IMF mission conducts annual evaluations of the fiscal and economic performance of the government. But the June team was particularly worried about the growing budget deficit of the government, warning that it was in a "crucial juncture." (President Macapagal-Arroyo used the same term "crucial juncture" on Aug. 23 when she announced that the country was in fiscal crisis).

New colonial state

The IMF team recommended, among others that government assume Napocor debts, fast track its privatization, increase taxes like that of VAT and on petroleum, and make tax administration more efficient. Soon afterward, Ms Arroyo announced in her State of the Nation Address her eight tax measures and the UP economists came out with their position paper.

The UP economists simply ignore the fact that the root of the fiscal crisis is the neo-colonial status of the Philippines. A neo-colonial state, though not directly governed by another country like the Philippines under direct American rule from 1899 to 1946, is, however, dependent on external sources for its economy to function

Since the Philippines became an American colony in 1899, the government has prioritized its obligations to foreign creditors over its social responsibility to the people. This is especially exemplified in the notorious neo-colonial Marcos Presidential Decree 1177 (re-enacted as Executive Order 292 by President Corazon Aquino), imposed by an IMF survey team, which requires the government to pay its foreign debts before other expenditures. In principle, allocation for all other operations of the government, particularly for social services, can be zero if nothing is left after foreign debts are defrayed.

What can be done?

The country must first and foremost renegotiate all foreign debts because a great part of these are odious loans, particularly those incurred during the Marcos regime, when external loans ballooned from $599.5 million in 1965 to $28.2 billion after he was ousted in 1986. Thus, Marcos incurred a total of $27.8 billion in loans during his regime, including the scandalous $2.3 billion for the mothballed Bataan Nuclear Power Plant and other loans to his cronies.

The Philippine government continues to pay for the interest and principal of many of the Marcos loans, which formed part of the $56.3 billion foreign debt of the country as of June. And there are other questionable foreign debts like those incurred by Napocor from the Ramos administration up to the Arroyo administration that a tough and determined government mission can negotiate with the country's foreign creditors.

Debt repudiation

Other countries like Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Cuba, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zaire have at one time or another unilaterally suspended or repudiated part or all of their debt servicing. Even the United States repudiated some of its debts, such as those she incurred from British financiers in building railroad networks in the 1800s. Several of the American allies also never paid back debts to the US that they acquired during World War I.

In looking for the solution to our fiscal crisis, the people should not be further burdened because they are not responsible for the crisis. In fact, the masses have long been subjected to the effects of the constant scrimping on the national budget, mostly affecting the appropriations for social services, in order to defray government debts.

The solution is not to increase all kinds of taxes, like what the government and the 11 UP professors are clamoring for, which will just exacerbate the misery of the masses, but for the government to have a strong political will to renegotiate all debts, especially foreign ones.

Reviewing and reversing all tariff agreements, which have caused a drain of P100 billion in customs dues annually since 1994, and the elimination of the leakage of around 20 percent from the national budget due to corruption should also be pushed vigorously. In the long run, however, it will be a true government of the people that will have the courage and selflessness to take the road we are showing.

(Edberto Villegas is the chair of the Development Studies Program of UP Manila and author of several books, notably "Studies in Philippine Political Economy," 1984; "Japanese Economic Presence in Southeast Asia," 1992; and "Global Finance Capital and the Philippine Financial System," 2001. He is a fellow at the Center for Anti-Imperialist Studies.)

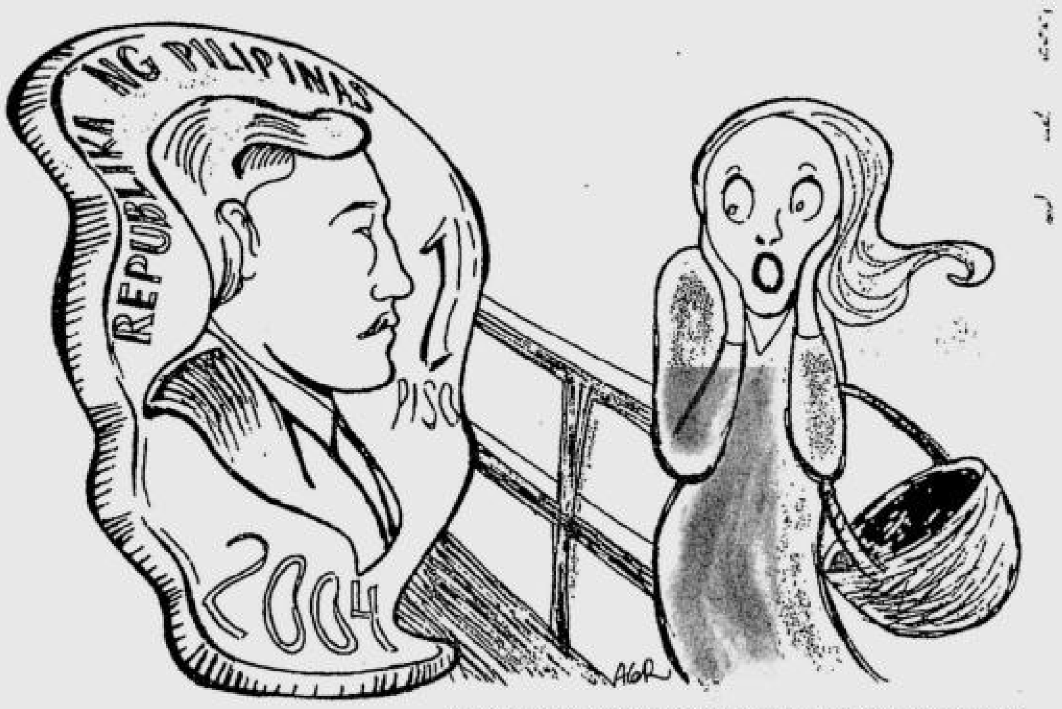
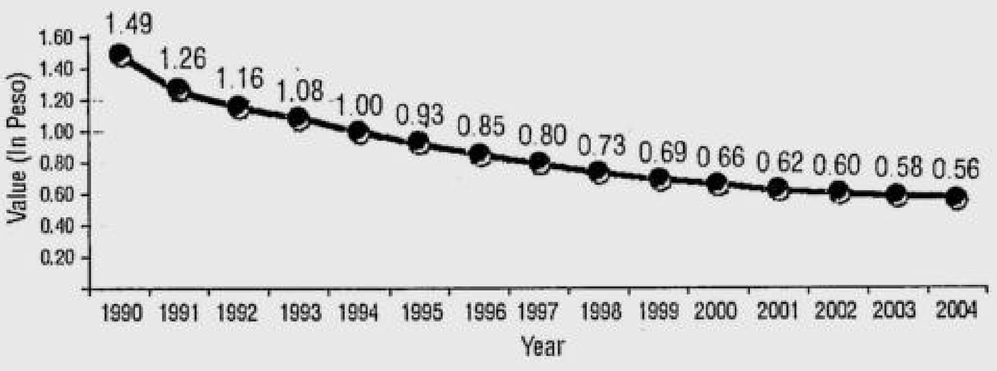


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ / INQGRAPHIC AND PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

Purchasing Power of the Peso (1994 = 100)



SOURCE: YEARBOOK, NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE

Real per capita national government expenditures on social services 1996 to 2004 (2000 prices in pesos)

Year	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 Prel	2004 Pres
Total Social Services	2,188	2,487	2,417	2,323	2,302	2,035	2,002	2,016	1,999
Education	1,534	1,789	1,761	1,675	1,608	1,515	1,505	1,455	1,415
Health	230	266	221	223	202	166	171	151	141
Social Security, Welfare and Employment	317	392	387	364	376	331	327	392	418
Housing and Community Development	107	39	48	61	115	22	19	19	29

SOURCE: ROSARIO G. MANASAN, "FISCAL REFORM AGENDA: GETTING READY FOR THE BUMPY ROAD AHEAD," TABLE 2, P5

Fiscal crisis and trade liberalization: Facts and fallacies

By Felipe de Vera and Errol Ramos

The paper of 11 professors at the UP School of Economics, "The Deepening Crisis: The Real Score on Deficits and the Public Debt," is a bold attempt to show the nation the magnitude of the fiscal crisis.

However, the paper's argument for new taxes as the solution to the fiscal crisis is highly debatable because of the paper's failure to dwell on the root causes of the crisis. Like band aids, these "pain" solutions can only temporarily cover some of the gaping wounds of a sick economy. They do not address the deeper causes of the fiscal and economic malaise and they do not provide our legislators the necessary policy handles to put our economic house in order.

One of the root causes is the excessive reliance of every economic team brought in by every administration on foreign borrowings to finance virtually every aspect of government's development work in the last three-and-a-half decades—from road construction to power generation, from hybrid seed propagation to farmer cooperative formation, from skills upgrading to education curriculum planning, and so on.

World Bank

One of the UP 11, Dr. Gerardo Sicat, was himself the original architect of this debt-dependent development strategy that was put in place with a lot of nudging from the World Bank.

The nation is paying a very high price for the foreign debt, which has ballooned from $2 billion in the early 1970s to over $56 billion today, and for the consolidated public sector debt that has swelled to P6 trillion or over 130 percent of gross domestic product. Is there any other nation in East Asia allocating over one-third of its annual national budget for interest payments alone?

Another glaring weakness in the paper is its failure to discuss the deleterious effects of the unilateral trade liberalization program, which our neo-liberal technocrats, including some of the authors, have been implementing since the 1980s.

The recent paper by the six Ph.D. students tried to defend their mentors at the UPSE by coming up with statistical extrapolations aimed at showing the supposedly minimal adverse fiscal impact of the Tariff Reform Program (TRP)—by only one percent on customs revenues.

But what are the facts?

From 1994 to 2000, the total duty revenue collection did not improve despite the annual increases in imports as the average MFN tariffs declined from 19.72 percent to 7.71 percent.

Now, had the tariff rates been retained at their 1994 levels, revenues from duties could have reached as much as P200 billion a year, not P100 billion. Per our computation (1994 tariff rates times value of imports), the government could have collected a staggering additional amount of P635 billion from 1995 to 2001. In short, we sacrificed as much as 40 percent of our potential customs revenues. Therefore, the country lost not a trifling but a lot as a result of the TRP.

Under the World Trade Organization (WTO), we have every right to increase our tariffs to their maximum binding rates. And yet, despite the fiscal crisis and the job and income dislocations imports are visiting upon our domestic industries, our technocrats are not inclined to raise the tariffs for fear of violating their TRP schedule.

A case in point is vegetables. The National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) increased the tariffs to only 20 to 25 percent even if we have the right to increase them to the maximum 40 percent. And Neda did the adjustment only after so much protests by the vegetable growers in the Cordillera.

The point is that there are flexibilities available in our trade agreements. The 11 professors have omitted any discussion on the option available for the Philippines to adjust its MFN tariffs upward, up to the bound rates for products that have tariff bindings and up to any feasible level for those that are unbound.

Jobs

While we can continue to unilaterally reduce tariffs on products not locally produced and without local substitutes to 1 percent or even 0 percent, products manufactured locally that compete with imports should have their tariffs increased, not only as a protection for domestic industries but also as a source for the much needed revenues for the next six years. This will also allow the preservation and creation of local jobs that President Macapagal-Arroyo promised as this will result in domestic production capacity being more fully utilized

As to the argument that raising tariffs will be inflationary, the proposals to increase the value-added tax rate from 10 percent to 12 percent and the P2 per liter specific tax on petroleum products will even have a more direct and immediate impact on inflation.

Clearly, the present fiscal crisis will test whether the present national leadership has the political will to pursue bold trade reforms, to adjust tariffs based on the flexibilities we have under the WTO and to deviate from the narrow and doctrinaire TRP program.

(Felipe de Vera and Errol Ramos are economics gruduates from the University of Santo Tomas and the University of the Philippines, respectively. Both are members of the Youth Advocates for Economic Progress, which holds discussions on economic issues and organizes trade fairs for Filipino-made products.)

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Cops target assets of drug suspect

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) is pushing for the freezing of all the assets and bank deposits of suspected drug lord Calvin Tan in Hong Kong and in the Philippines.

PDEA chief Anselmo Avenido said the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) is now conducting an investigation to locate all the assets and bank accounts in the Philippines of Tan, who is believed to be the mastermind in the operation of the mega shabu laboratory in Mandaue City that was busted by PDEA on Sept. 24.

Avenido said he had coordinated closely with the AMLC in the search for all of Tan's assets and bank accounts in the country.

Avenido said he also wrote to the Philippine Consul General in Hong Kong so that he could make representation to the Hong Kong authorities to also freeze Tan's assets in the Chinese territory.

Tan, 29, a Chinese-Filipino who holds a Philippine passport, was arrested by the customs office in Hong Kong on Thursday at a ferry terminal bound for Macau.

Seized from Tan were cash totaling 820,000 dollars in US and Hong Kong notes as well as a small quantity of "ice" (methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu) and cocaine that police said was for the suspect's personal use.

He was also found carrying a number of passbooks to bank accounts that contained deposits amounting to $11 million.

Avenido said Tan should not be allowed to withdraw his bank deposits in Hong Kong because the money might came from the illegal drug trade.

Avenido said the freezing of Tan's assets in Hong Kong is allowed because Hong Kong has also adopted an Anti-Money Laundering Law.

Avenido also said yesterday that he told the consul general to exert effort so that Tan could not post bail in Hong Kong.

Tan was charged with possession of dangerous drugs before the Hong Kong court, but Avenido said Tan could post bail because the case filed against him is a bailable offense in Hong Kong.

Avenido said House Committee on Dangerous Drugs chair Roque Ablan has gone to Hong Kong and brought with him documents containing the information of the charges filed against Tan before the court by the Mandaue City prosecutor's office.

The criminal complaint, which originally contained only 11 names, was amended on Thursday to include Tan's name in the wake of his arrest in Hong Kong.

DA national office moving to former HQ of autonomous office

DAVAO CITY—It's final.

The national office of the Department of Agriculture (DA) will move to the six-hectare compound of the deactivated Southern Philippines Development Authority here, probably early next year, officials said.

"The President (Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo) is serious with her commitment to bring the agriculture department here," Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said.

Ms Arroyo and Yap led other officials in inspecting the old compound Friday afternoon.

The former SPDA compound was being used as training facility of the Army's 2nd Special Forces Battalion but presidential assistant for Mindanao Jesus Dureza said they would vacate most of the area by December.

After the inspection, Yap told reporters that the DA would not be spending much on repairs because the buildings "are still sound and the place is secured."

He said he does not see any obstacle to the transfer because most employees of the DA national office were willing to relocate.

Yap said President Arroyo ordered him to develop the compound into a community, where workers can set up housing units.

Yap said for those who do not want to relocate here, the government is already crafting a special package for their early retirement.

"The DBM (Department of Budget and Management) is preparing a special package for employees opting early retirement," he said.

The transfer of the DA national office to Mindanao was announced by the President during last year's inauguration of the P4.9-million Davao International Airport.

She made the same commitment during her inauguration.

Up until Friday, there was no official announcement as to where the DA would be relocated although Davao City was already being mentioned along with Zamboanga City as the possible sites.

Aside from the DA, other national government offices were also being moved out of the National Capital Region. *Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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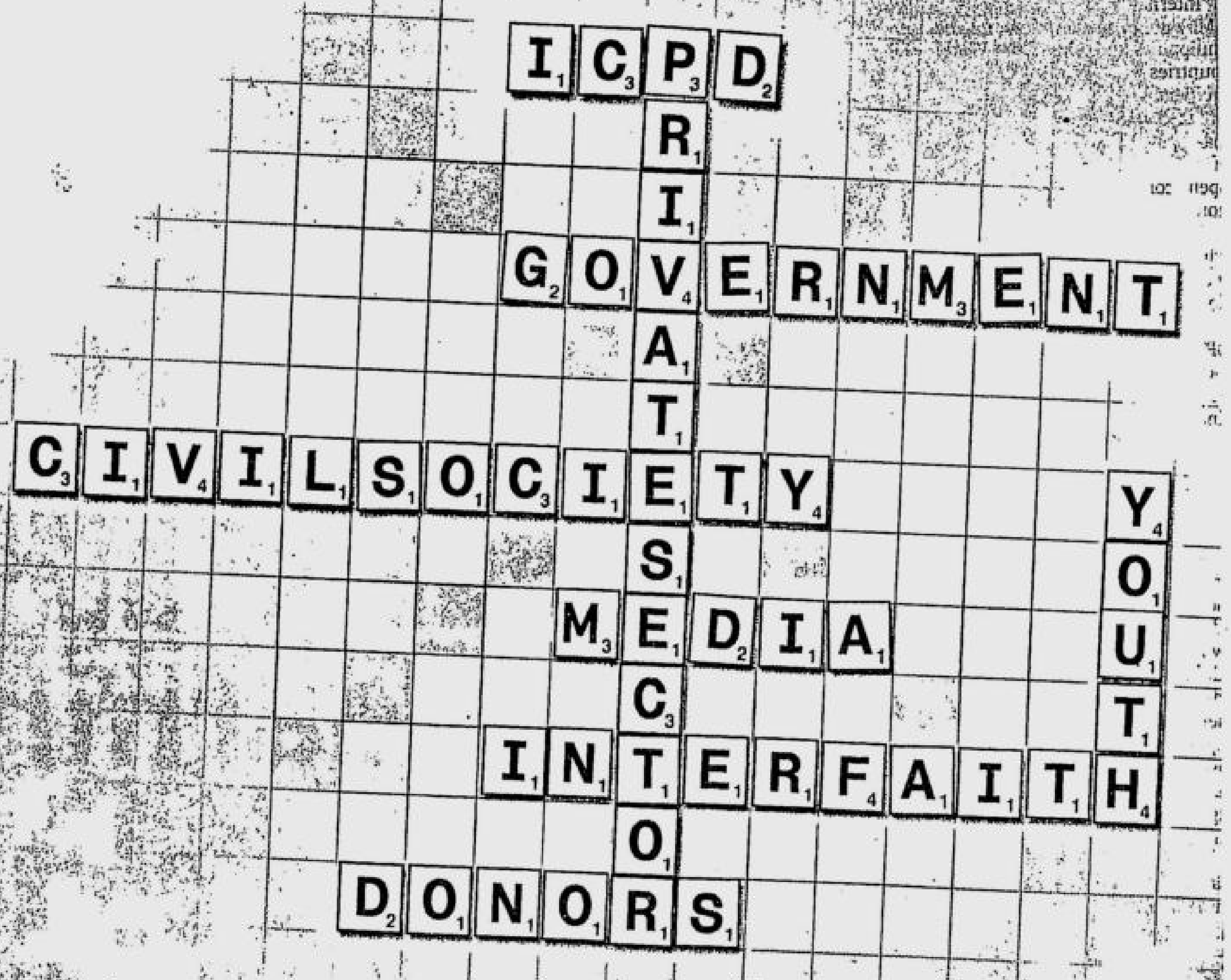

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but no woman should die at all from these causes.
There has been a significant reduction in infant and child mortality,
But again, no child or baby should ever die from lack of care.
Gender laws have been passed, and the gender budget has been increased,
but some women are still being beaten, girls being abused.

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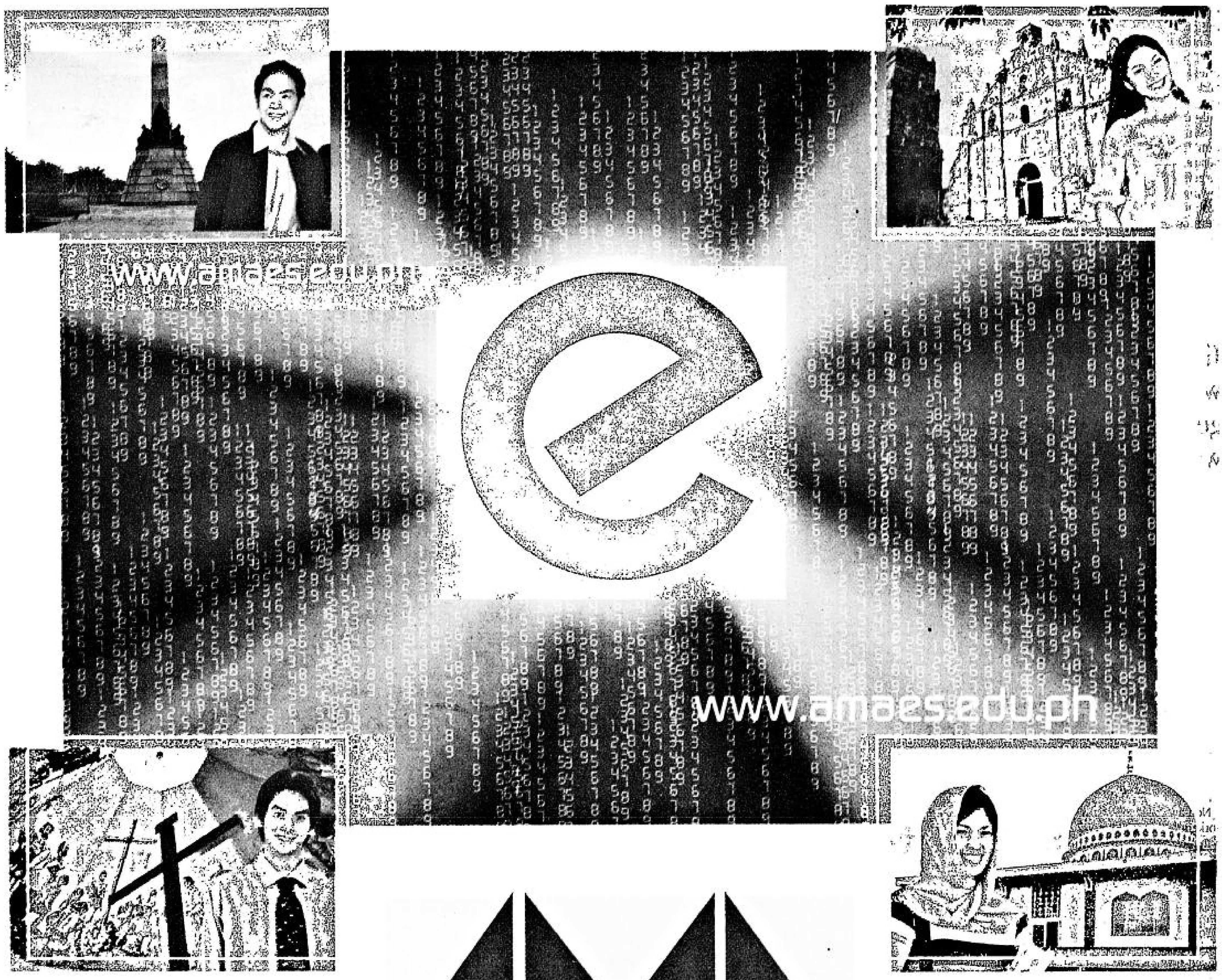

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US troops told to stay away from Zambo fest

ZAMBOANGA CITY—American soldiers participating in the RP-US military exercises here had been told to shy away from activities in connection with the month-long celebration of the city's anniversary.

Col. Jovencio Magalso, chief of the Task Force Zamboanga, said the prohibition was being implemented for security reasons.

"They have been briefed and oriented on security requirement and were advised to limit their mobility within and inside the military camps," Magalso said.

Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Generoso Senga told the INQUIRER that foreigners are favorite targets of terrorists and that allowing the Americans to roam around during the Zamboanga Hermosa festivities would compromise their security.

"As we all know anywhere in the world, Americans are always targets of terrorist attacks and we would not like to gamble on their security," Senga said.

"They should seek clearance from Southern Command," Magalso said when asked how he would deal with insistent US servicemen.

The military officials said the fear was not without basis.

On Oct. 2, 2002, a bomb went off near the gates of Camp Enrile here while the city was celebrating the Zamboanga Hermosa.

A US serviceman was killed in the blast while two others were wounded.

The military blamed the explosion on the Abu Sayyaf.

At the height of the Balikatan exercise on Oct. 17, 2002, two explosions occurred in the city killing at least nine people, including a Filipino soldier.

But while American soldiers were barred from enjoying the festivities this month, the police said it was increasing security measures for foreign tourists and local visitors to the city. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Ilocos workers get ₱10 wage hike

SAN FERNANDO CITY—The Regional Tripartite Wage and Productivity Board in the Ilocos has granted P5-P10 increases in the daily wage rate including a P5-hike in the cost of living allowance of workers and employees in the private sector in the region.

Under Wage Order No. RB 1-09 issued on Friday, non-agricultural workers will receive P190 while workers in small manufacturing enterprises and in hotels and restaurants will receive P175.

Non-agricultural workers include those in mining and quarrying, transport, storage and communication, real estate, renting and business activities and construction.

For agricultural workers, those employed in plantations will receive P166 while non-plantation workers will get P141, the same rate for those employed in the fishing industry.

Workers who are paid on task basis (*pakyaw* or *takay*) are also entitled to receive the new wage increase.

Business establishments with an asset of not more than P3 million exclusive of land and with not more than 10 employees are also obliged to give the P5-increase in the daily wage and P5-hike cost of living allowance to their employees.

Those working in cooperatives are entitled to the same wage increase and Cola hike.

Private educational institutions' employees get the biggest increase at P10, according to the new wage order.

Not covered by the new wage order are establishments that are considered "distressed." RTWPB officials said these establishments will have to apply for exemption and if found to be qualified, will be given a maximum one-year exemption period.

Also, private schools that did not increase their fees for 2004-2005 may be exempted from the wage order until 2005. *Peter La. Julian, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

ROUNDUP

300 lose jobs in Caraga

BUTUAN CITY—The Department of Public Works and Highways in Caraga said it terminated the services of about 300 contractual employees as part of the office's budget-saving measure. Romeo Momo, regional DPWH director, said they accounted for about 10 percent of the agency's total number of workers regionwide. President Macapagal-Arroyo had earlier ordered government agencies to institute money-saving measures to help the national government trim down the burgeoning fiscal deficit. "This is a must to cope with the current budgetary constraints," Momo told the INQUIRER. ***Franklin A. Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

60 families flee from floods

COTABATO CITY—Some 60 families in Pagalungan and Datu Montawal towns in Maguindanao fled to higher grounds after rampaging floodwaters swept their dwellings near river banks, town officials reported Friday. The Catholic-run Radio dxMS reported that the displaced families, with their little children in tow, were a pitiful sight along the Cotabato-Davao national highway. The heavily silted Rio Grande de Mindanao and its tributaries overflowed because of days of raining, according to Pagalungan Vice Mayor Norodin Matalam. Pagalungan and Datu Montawal were among the towns hit by evacuations in Maguindanao because of recent clashes between the military and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. ***Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau[***

Stude dies saving friend

LUCENA CITY—A Grade VI pupil died of electrocution after she tried to save her friend in Buenavista, Quezon, on Monday. Police said Mabel Lantero, 13, a student of the Poblacion Elementary School was playing with her classmate Jocelyn Pavena, also 13, inside their school when the latter touched a grounded electric post due to faulty wiring, which resulted in her electrocution. Lantero tried to save Pavena by pulling her from the post but she was also electrocuted. The two were rushed to a hospital in Lopez town but Lantero was declared dead on arrival. Pavena, however, survived. ***Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

2 killed in mishap

LUCENA CITY—Two motorcycle riders were killed and another was seriously injured when the bike they were riding on collided with a passenger bus along the Maharlika Highway in Barangay Camohaguin, Gumaca, Quezon on Saturday. Police said Franklyn Lobago, 27, and Enrique Estamio, 21, both residents of Barangay Jongo, Lopez, Quezon, along with one Joel Angulo Biblanias, were riding on a motorcyle driven by Lobago, when it overtook a passenger jeepney. The motorcycle collided with the oncoming bus. Lobago and Estamio died while being treated in a Gumaca hospital. ***Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Cops nab illegal recruiter

LUCENA CITY—The Criminal Intelligence and Detection Team in Quezon arrested an illegal recruiter in an entrapment operation in Calamba City on Sept. 27. The suspect, Teresita Santos, 44, of Sta. Rosa, Laguna, had been the subject of numerous complaints from her victims, said Insp. Leonardo Funggo. Police said Santos enticed her victims with jobs in toy and chocolate factories in New Jersey, United States, in exchange for placement fees that range from P5,000 to P25,000. ***Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

S. Oppus-Yñiguez; 86

MAASIN CITY—Former Southern Leyte Gov. Salvacion Oppus-Yñiguez died on Sept. 24 due to pneumonia. She was 86. Physician Macario Dajao said Yñiguez was brought to the Integrated Provincial Hospital on Sept. 13 after she suffered a mild stroke. She is survived by husband, former Speaker Nicanor Yñiguez, daughter Gov. Rosette Lerias and son, Alfredo. Interment was set on Oct. 2 at Barangay Isagani, Maasin City after a 2 p.m. Mass at the Maasin Cathedral. ***Jani Arnaiz, PDI Visayas Bureau***

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01-31	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-31	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-31	MAMMA MIA!
01-31	Tan Swie Hian
01-03	Sing Song
05-07	Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
09-31	Hari Raya Light-Up
14-22	Navarathiri Festival
14-31	Pilgrimage to Kusu Island
15-31	Deepavali Light-Up 2004
24	Action Asia Challenge

NOVEMBER

01	Theemidhi Festival
01-30	Fabric of the Nation exhibition
01-30	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-30	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-30	MAMMA MIA!
01-30	Tan Swie Hian
01-14	Deepavali Light-Up 2004
01-14	godoatgod
06-15	Disney Live! Winnie the Pooh and the Perfect Day
11-12	Dances of the Orient
11	Deepavali
13-21	Singapore International Buskers Festival
13-30	Christmas in the Tropics 2004
14	Hari Raya Puasa
15-21	Singapore Badminton Open
16-21	The Little Match Girl
20-21	Singapore River Regatta
20-30	Rumpelstiltskin
23-30	Sesame Street Live Everyone Makes Music
25	BONEY'M LIVE 2004
26-30	Warisan Kita Festival
26-30	Nickelodeon's Christmas by the Bay
26-30	Family Festival
27	Kavyarasa

DECEMBER

01-31	Fabric of the Nation exhibition
01-31	Crossroads: Collective Works of Second Generation Artists
01-31	Ju Ming 2004 Singapore-Beijing-Shanghai Asian Sculpture at its Best
01-31	MAMMA MIA!
01-31	Christmas in the Tropics 2004
01-03	Sesame Street Live Everyone Makes Music
01-04	Warisan Kita Festival
01-05	Family Festival
01-09	Nickelodeon's Christmas by the Bay
01-12	Rumpelstiltskin
01-19	Tan Swie Hian
05-12	40th AMF Bowling World Cup
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Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Nico A. Alconaba**

Mamanwa of Agusan Norte reclaim lake

MAMANWA children savor the succulent shells found in their great enchanted, deep, blue Lake Mainit served during the turnover of the Ecotourism Center in Kicharao, Agusan del Norte. GRACE CANTAL-ALBASIN/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Agusan del Norte

FOR MANY decades, the Mamanwa of Agusan del Norte would only feast their eyes on the mesmerizing view of Lake Mainit from their highland community near the bosom of the already denuded forests.

In their hearts, though, they longed to be near the great lake, to be embraced by her and to embrace her in return. They hungered for its bounty that they only heard about in stories told by their ancestors.

Yet they have all the reason to claim and to own, if not all of the lake, then perhaps a significant part of it.

The Mamanwa people are said to be the first settlers around Mainit, the fourth biggest but deepest lake in the country.

According to an article about the lake, the nomadic Negrito tribe of Mamanwa first inhabited its shores and later moved out. A group of nongovernment organizations believe otherwise, claiming that the people were forced out of their settlements because of inroads of civilization and lowlanders.

Emmanuel Eco of Convergence for Community-Centered Area Development (Convergence) said what was unique about the tribe was its resistance to being assimilated into the community of the lowlanders that it called the Bisaya.

Being nomadic is a common trait of the *lumad* (indigenous peoples) in the country. While other groups opened their lives to the culture of the Bisaya, the Mamanwa kept their doors shut, Eco said.

"They remained nomadic because when they were starting to settle down, the Bisaya came in. The Bisaya may not have literally forced them out, but their mere presence in what was supposed to be a Mamanwa community was already a reason to move out," said Eco.

Isolation

"They would really isolate themselves," he added.

Eco, Convergence's site coordinator who has worked with the Mamanwa for some time now, said he saw the people's desire to claim part of the lake.

At least five communities have started to settle in the lakeside towns of Kitcharao, Jabonga and Mainit. Two of them are now working on their ancestral domain claim.

"This is already a good start for them. I have seen their longing to benefit from the abundance of the lake and somehow improve their living conditions. The problem is, they just do not have the capacity to do that yet," Eco said.

Convergence is a coalition of NGOs working to employ a common and integrated approach to community-centered area development.

Its members are the Center of Empowerment and Resource Development, Inc.; Cooperative Foundation, Philippines; Philippine Ecumenical Action for Community Empowerment Foundation; Philippine Network of Rural Development Institutes; Philippine Peasants Institute; Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement; Rural Enlightenment and Accretion in Philippine Society Foundation, and the Tambuyong Development Center.

For the Mamanwa of Agusan del Norte, Convergence is implementing what it calls the "Sustainable Rural Development Project-Program of Infrastructure and Promotion of the Economic Sector in the Rural Areas."

The program aims to alleviate poverty by empowering communities through training, education and engagement in livelihood enterprises, and to promote gender equality by ensuring active women's participation in community development.

Timely initiative

Eco said Convergence saw the timeliness of helping the Mamanwa communities. For many years, he said, the tribe had been subjected to "pseudo-changes" by other NGOs which had milked money from international agencies in the guise of helping the tribe.

June Rodriguez, Convergence secretary general, said their assistance was based on a perspective that the Mamanwa were an essential constituent of the lake, not simply a minority.

"It is primarily because they benefit directly from these natural resources. It is also a consideration that they are one of the neglected sectors of the society," Rodriguez said.

"We do not target the poorest of the poor but the 'enterprising poor'—those who are willing to help themselves," she added.

Convergence formed people's organizations that would ensure easy identification of projects and facilitation of plans. Among the projects designed for the Mamanwa in the three towns are handicraft shops and a rattan nursery.

The Mamanwa are also being groomed as lead workers for the planned ecotourism industry in Agusan del Norte, using Lake Mainit as its main attraction. A cultural center was built close to the lake in Kitcharao through funds donated by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

Tour operators

"Our goal is for the Mamanwa to be local tour operators—they will sell tour packages, manage and own the cultural center and have a livelihood," Eco said.

He, however, admitted that ecotourism was totally new to the Mamanwa, who had no choice but to accept the idea.

"We designed this because we saw how it fits their needs now. It is very community-based and they could use it to alleviate their conditions," Eco said.

Eco believed that the discrimination against the Mamanwa by the Bisaya would end. A young Mamanwa leader could also just hope for a change in perception about them.

"It hurts us to know that the lowlanders look at us like criminals and lazy people. Many of us are not working because we don't have land to work on," Tito Bago, 29, chair of the Tibulos (United) Association, said in the local language.

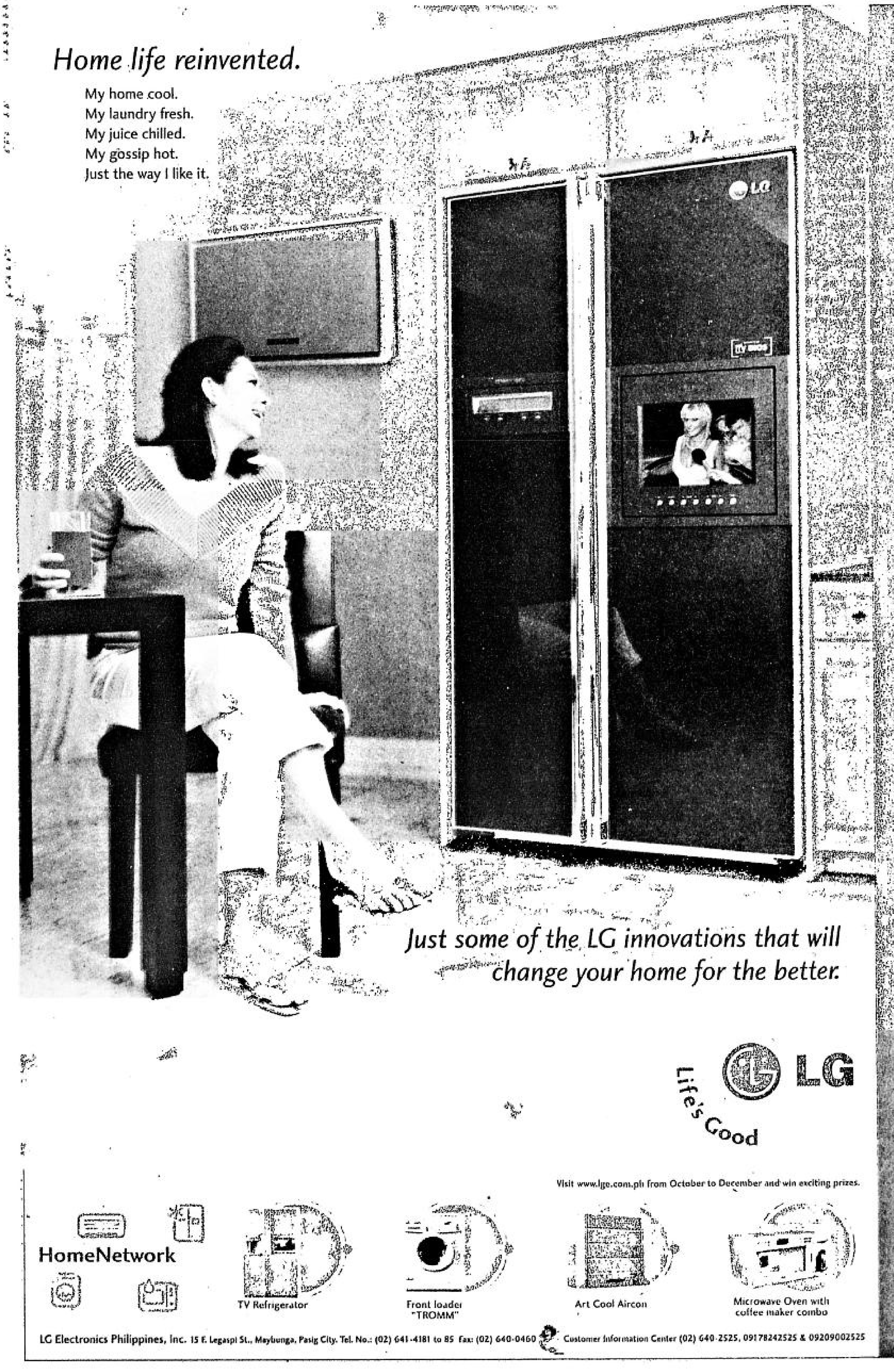
"The lowlanders consider us as low-class people and some of us are partly to be blamed for this because they would just rely on begging," Bago added.

As a result, the Mamanwa tend to isolate themselves, which affect their economic stability.

"When they isolate themselves from the mainstream, the extent of the damage makes their lives very miserable," Eco said.

As they help the Mamanwa reclaim their right to Lake Mainit, Eco said there were indications that the people had started to build hopes again.

"I myself am hopeful that, after a few years, the lives of the people will change for the better," Eco said.



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PROTEST FOOD

BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Farmers eat cassava and boiled bananas at a rally in Davao City against the agricultural policies of President Arroyo who was to visit the city recently.

ROBBERY-KILLING

4 in TV anchor's slay charged

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—The Iloilo City Prosecutor's Office on Thursday filed a criminal charge against four suspects in the killing of television anchor Christopher Misajon.

Charged with robbery with homicide were Richard Barrios and three other unidentified persons. Excluded in the complaint were Roseni Gonzales and Pedro Jamili who were earlier tagged by the 6th Criminal Investigation and Detection Group as among those involved in the attack against Misajon and Ma. Teresa Bacabac.

City Prosecutor Efrain Baldago said Gonzales and Pedro Jamili were excluded in the charge sheet because the two are still at large and have to be issued subpoenas.

Jessie Jamili, another suspect who was arrested earlier, has turned state witness.

Barrios, 29, was arrested by CIDG operatives in Dumarao town, Capiz, on Sept. 28. He was identified by Jessie Jamili's live-in partner, Aiza Garbanzos, as one of two men with Gonzales, Jessie's cousin, who came to the couple's house before Misajon was killed. The couple lives around 400 meters from the crime scene.

Jessie Jamili and Garbanzos said at least one of the three men was carrying a gun. Garbanzos said the men came again after she heard a gunshot and left in their house a shotgun believed to be the one used in shooting Misajon.

Misajon and Bacabac were attacked by at least four suspects around 1 a.m. on Sept. 23 in Barangay San Rafael in Mandurriao District. The robbers took two cellular phones and P500 cash from the victims.

The victims were on their way to Jaro District and took a shortcut in the dirt road where the robbers approached the car that they were riding.

One of the suspects smashed the glass window of the door near the driver's seat and poked a gun at Misajon's temple. The gun apparently went off after Misajon parried the barrel.

Misajon, 29, died two days later from a gunshot wound in the stomach that damaged his internal organs.

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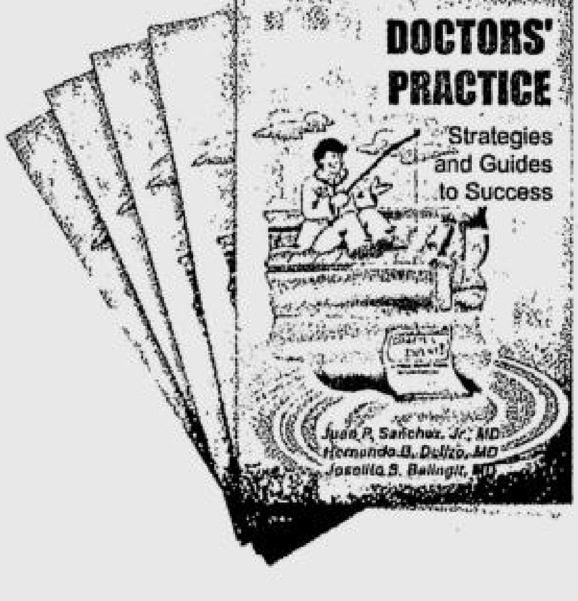

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Now it can be told: Erap nearly wrecked PDI

From page A1

dustry, movie producers withdrew their ads from the INQUIRER in exchange for a promise of tax incentives and tax cuts from the President.

Estrada, it was said, had complained to his movie industry friends of the allegedly "inaccurate, irresponsible, biased, [and] slanted" reporting of the INQUIRER.

Not just movie ads

Sympathetic readers thought the boycott only concerned domestic movie advertising, Romualdez said.

But big corporate advertisers also began withdrawing their ads in what was shaping up to be a big financial squeeze play.

"Our top five advertisers also backed down and this cost us millions of pesos (in advertising revenue losses)," said Romualdez who did not cite the exact amount of losses.

She said apologetic advertisers began calling her, relating how government entities had been checking on their activities.

"Suddenly, the BIR [Bureau of Internal Revenue] was interested in looking into the INQUIRER's books again," Romualdez said.

At the height of the boycott, she called for a general assembly of INQUIRER employees and found company morale to be very high.

100 percent support

The INQUIRER board said it "was 100-percent behind us" even if the paper had to be reduced to a 12-page tabloid, she said.

But four months into the boycott, employee morale was getting low and some parties wanted to broker a meeting between her and Estrada, said Romualdez.

Nor was everyone sympathetic to the plight of the paper. There were irate calls saying, "I don't care if you are padlocked," according to Romualdez.

But she said they persevered and came out the better for it.

"We came out of the Ninoy (Aquino) assassination protest and the Edsa Revolution. It was important for us to go through this," she said.

The results can be seen in the many changes in the paper, one of this being the decision to lighten up.

Positive story daily

Romualdez said the INQUIRER now makes it a point to come up with a positive story in the front page every day.

The angry calls from unsympathetic readers during the crisis spurred the creation of a Readers' Advocate who handles readers' feedback and complaints from news subjects.

Another change was the creation of a correction box where factual errors are corrected, Romualdez said.

Yet another challenge was to get the members of the so-called Ragnarok Generation—Filipinos between the ages of 18 and 30—to read.

Fast facts

The new "Fast Facts" and "In the Know" features are designed to encapsulate information and help readers of this generation understand stories more easily.

The INQUIRER has also gone into television and the Internet. InqTV comes out with an hour-long weekly news and public affairs program on ABC 5. In partnership with the GMA 7 network, the paper operates the www.inq7.net website.

Romualdez said the INQUIRER has also had to respond to the text messages it gets from its readers. Their comments are published in the "Inqbox" section every Tuesday and senders of published entries receive souvenirs from the INQUIRER's gift shop.

"We get 3,000 messages a day," she said.

Romualdez and University of the Philippines student Patricia Evangelista were both cited during the closing ceremonies of the PMAP conference as champions of their generation.

'Bridge' generation

Evangelista is of the Ragnarok Generation, but Romualdez was not sure what name to give her generation.

"Maybe we are the bridge generation," she said, describing it as the one that played Game and Watch, solved the Rubik's Cube and danced to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

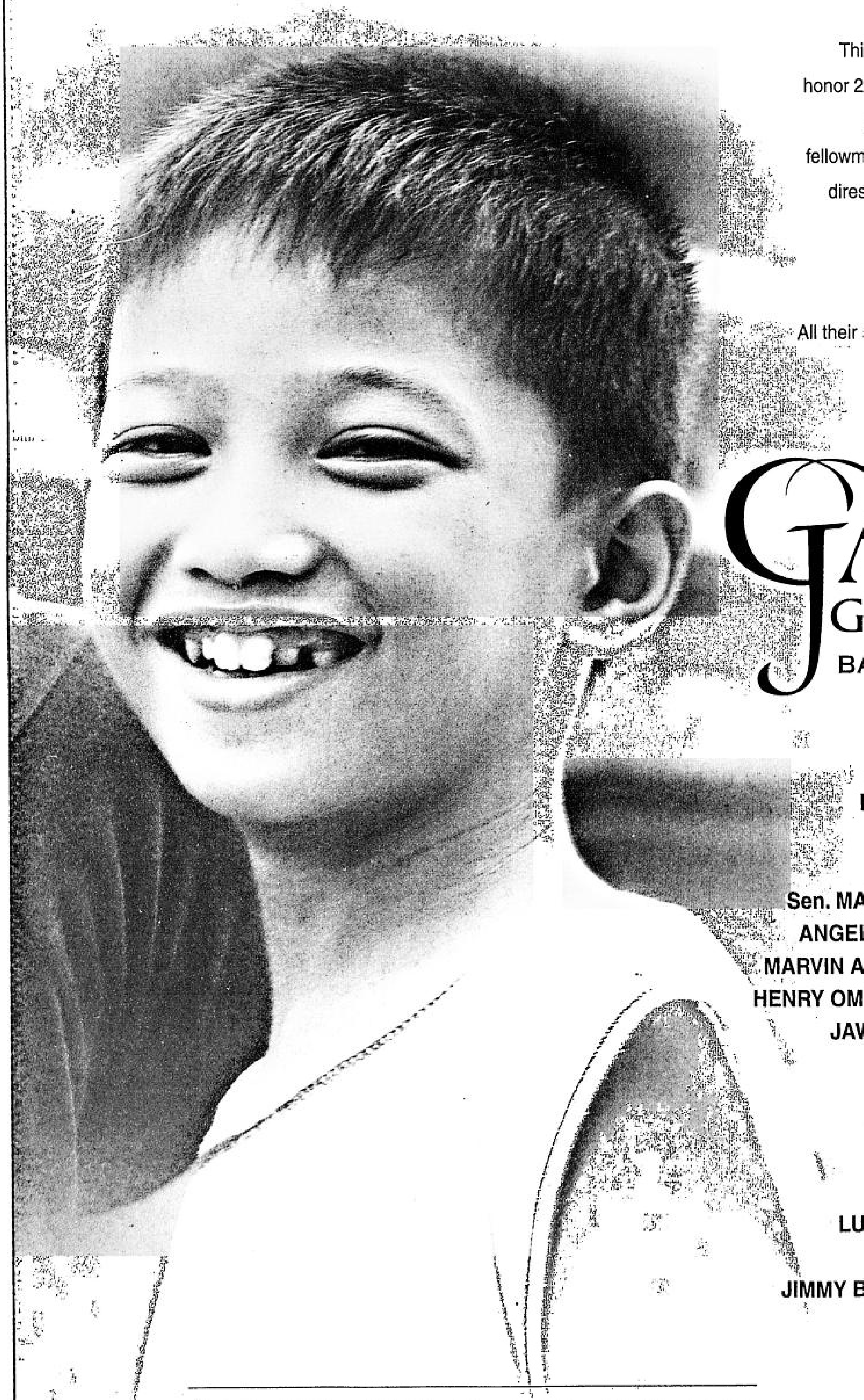
Romualdez said cross-generational dialogues with the INQUIRER editors, whom she described as of the "Woodstock generation," also helped her to maintain the INQUIRER's status as the country's top newspaper.

'Woodstock editors'

She said one of the challenges to the Woodstock editors was to get over their "fear of information technology."

"But once they passed the first hurdle, it was easy for them to embrace technology," she said.

But Romualdez said that by far the biggest obstacle to the INQUIRER's success was still the poor literacy rate and poverty in the country.



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TONIGHT
After Tanging Ina

ABS-CBN

Masters have pets blessed to make sure these will go to heaven

By Martin P. Marfil

ANIMAL lovers, some of whom believe that their pets have souls and that they want to be with their pets in heaven when they die, yesterday trooped to the Edsa Shrine to have their pets blessed.

At least 56 dogs, six cats and two rabbits were given the blessing in rites held to mark the feast of St. Francis de Assisi, the patron of animals.

The feast falls on Oct. 4 but the rites are usually held on the first weekend of the month.

According to Oscar Lei, director and shelter manager of the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), they have been holding the rites for the past eight or nine years in different churches.

Lei said they had a blessing in another church yesterday morning while another blessing for animals will be held today at the St. Jerome parish in Alabang. Another will be held at the Mt. Carmel church in Quezon City. **(See related photos on page 1)**

"Everyone deserves to be blessed by God, even the smallest little creature. That's why you have to bring them to church," Paola Yamsuan, 20, said after having her pet dog blessed by Edsa shrine rector Fr. Vic Apacible.

Asked why she had her dog blessed, she said that she was a Catholic and her dog was also one.

"All dogs go to heaven," she said when asked if they would both go to heaven.

She was not the only one there who believed that animals had souls.

Lei said that his view was based on the Buddhist belief that all creatures have souls.

"I believe that all creatures, whether animals or humans, have souls and undergo the same process as we humans do. I am talking about the process of refinement and enlightenment. When you say enlightenment, you reach a point where you become what we call in Buddhism a state of being which is heaven, the equivalent in Christianity," Lei said.

Lei said they recently honored two dogs and a cat who saved their masters from a fire and a landslide, which showed that they had "something" and were capable of saving their masters.

"If that's the basis for saying that they have a soul, I think they have a soul," he added.

Lei said that the blessing should not be misconstrued as a "baptism" and that pets who were blessed earlier could be blessed again.

"We want the people to treat their pets as members of the family. And if you can bless your car, bless your house, why can't you bless your pet?" he said.

Moreover, Lei added, "This is a creature that can emulate the feelings you have, they can show compassion to you, you can show compassion to them."

Another PAWS member, Moná Consunji, said that all living things had "energies" and, for humans, these are called "souls."

"There are documented cases of animal hauntings... I don't see why we humans can't say that animals have souls," Consunji, who is also a member of the Commission on Animal Welfare of the Bureau of Animal Industries, said.

LRT line helps blind 'see' their way

By Tina G. Santos

TAKING her child to school every day from their house in España, Manila, used to be very difficult for Racquel Francisco, 29.

Francisco said her visually impaired daughter Maria Elena, 6, became cranky every time they got stuck in traffic on their way to the Resources for the Blind in Cubao, Quezon City, where the girl is now in kindergarten.

"We used to take the FX taxi and I felt sorry for her when she cried and became irritable because of the noise, heat and pollution," Francisco said of her only child.

Maria Elena, who stands less than three feet tall, is afflicted with microphthalmia, a condition wherein the eyes are abnormally small.

Not fully developed

"The doctor said her eyes did not fully develop during my pregnancy," the mother said, adding that the girl could still see through the haze but is expected to go totally blind when she reaches the age of 7.

"I don't want her disability to become a hindrance for her to get a good education. That's why no matter how hard it for us to travel, I take her to school. But it's really difficult, given her condition," Francisco added.

Then came a blessing to both mother and child when Line 2 of the Light Rail Transit became operational.

LRT Line 2, a 13.8-km elevated rail system that snakes through Pasig, Marikina, Quezon City, San Juan and Manila, began operation in April 2003.

It traverses from its depot in Santolan in Pasig to Manila over Marcos Highway, Aurora Boulevard, Ramon Magsaysay Boulevard, Legarda and Recto Avenue.

Currently, it is servicing a growing number of passengers only up to Legarda but it is expected to be fully operational by the end of the year.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has dubbed LRT 2 the Purple Line because of the bright violet and canary yellow colors on the lower edge of the train coaches.

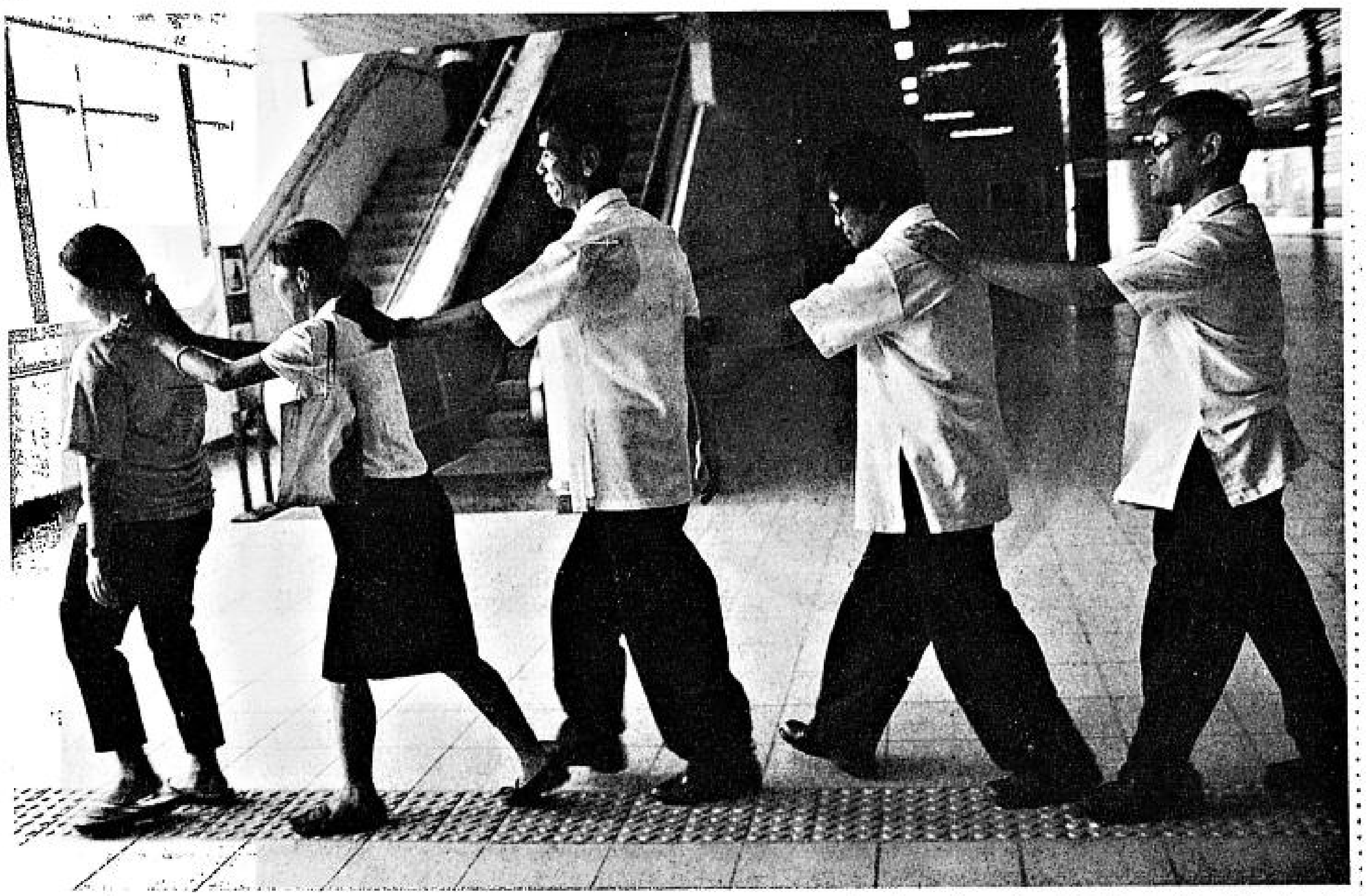
Disabled-friendly

Recently, the Purple Line was awarded by the Parent Advocates for Visually Impaired Children (Pavic) as one of two handicapped-friendly transportation establishments.

The other awardee was bus company Victory Liner, which was recognized along with LRT 2 during the observance of the National White Cane Day.

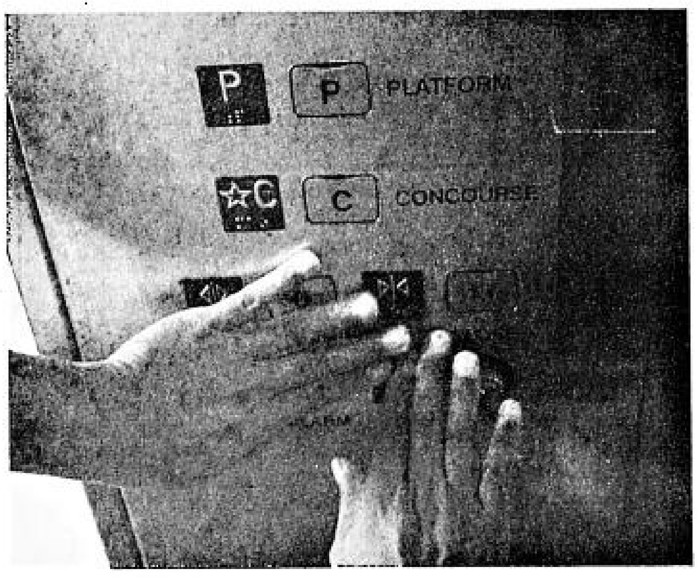
White Cane Day is held in celebration of the independence of the blind from their handicap through the use of a white, folded metal cane.

"We find the facilities of LRT 2 very friendly to the disabled," said Linda Choy, an executive committee member of Pavic, a non-stock, non-profit organization formed in 1999 to provide a support system to blind or visually impaired children and their families.



A GROUP of blind commuters, aided by a guide, find their way out of the LRT 2 station using the embossed, pathfinding tactiles laid out on the floor to and from the gate and the boarding platform.

JOAN BONDOC



THE PURPLE Line's elevators are ones that blind or visually impaired people can 'feel.'

JOAN BONDOC

One such feature of LRT 2 that makes life easier for the visually impaired are the Braille buttons on the controls of its glass-encased elevators.

Braille is a system of printing using raised dots which blind people can feel and read with their fingers.

Reserved for disabled

Her mother said Maria Elena, who has learned to use a cane, now knows how to operate the elevators, which are reserved for People with Disability (PWD), senior citizens and pregnant women.

Because of the innovation, traveling for Francisco and her daughter has become easier.

"She is more relaxed now," the doting mother added.

For Rico Domingo, a pastor, the yellow-colored Lego-like "pathfinding tactiles," which are standard in all 11 stations of the Purple Line, are the most helpful among the disabled-friendly facilities of LRT 2.

Domingo also regularly rides LRT 2 to accompany his daughter Trixie, 7, to the Philippine Normal University-Center for Teaching and Learning School where she is in Grade 2.

Like Maria Elena, Trixie is visually-impaired.

She lost her sight after a bout with eye cancer when she was younger, her father said.

"Blind passengers are guided to the trains since the floor leading to the elevator and to the boarding platform are embossed," he noted.

Domingo added that the Public Address System which announces each next stop has also helped her daughter.

"The announcements keep her alert and she would tell me, *'O, Daddy, one more station pa,'*" the father related.

One Tuesday afternoon, the INQUIRER chanced upon Joseph David Sarmiento, 38, who was being assisted by his sister Melanie and an LRT 2 employee from the elevator, to the boarding platform, to the train.

Sarmiento has muscular dystrophy, a disease that has gradually weakened his muscles and has confined him in a wheelchair for the last 15 years.

LRT 2 has wheelchair ramps in all its stations and has spaces designated for PWDs who bring their own wheelchairs and mobility tools.

A pleasant surprise

Signs that say "Please vacate for the disabled and elderly" are conspicuous in certain areas of each of the 18, four-car coaches.

"I thought my nephew was just kidding when he told me that the LRT 2 has facilities designed specially for PWDs," Sarmiento said in Filipino.

"I was aware that there are railway systems equipped with elevators but I was told these were not functioning most of the time, so I just take the cab whenever I go out," he added.

"I rarely go out (because of my condition), only when it's very important or when I visit my brother in Pasig, just like now. He is sick," he explained.

According to LRTA administrator Pacifico Fajardo, the air-conditioned, computerized coaches, measuring 3.2 meters wide and 92.6 meters long, are more spacious than those of the earlier systems. It can accommodate up to 1,628 passengers, including the wheelchair-bound.

"These enable passengers with disabilities and those in wheelchairs to board and alight from the train without encountering any problem," he said.

Every coach has 20 sliding doors on each side to facilitate the quick and convenient boarding and alighting of passengers.

Fajardo also takes pride in saying that the Purple Line is at par with those in other parts of the world.

The mass railway system has also proven to be a cheaper mode of transportation these days.

Francisco said she was able to save money because she only paid P26 from Legarda to Cubao and back, compared to the P40 she used to spend when taking an FX taxi.

On top of that, she said her daughter gets to ride for free at the Purple Line since her height is below the level of the turnstile.

Cavite village chief, 2 bodyguards ambushed

TWO GUNMEN on a motorcycle killed the head of a Muslim community in Cavite and his two bodyguards in front of the municipal hall of Dasmariñas, Cavite, Saturday noon.

Victim Hajji Ali Dimasar, 36, village chief of Barangay H-2, died from several gunshot wounds in the body. His brother-cum-bodyguard Ansari, 22, and Samad Ismael, 23, were also killed in the attack.

Senior Supt. Roberto Rosales, Cavite police director, said Dimasar had just gone out from the meeting of the Association of Barangay Captains at the second floor of the municipal hall.

Dimasar was included in the local police's drug watch list.

Rosales said that as Dimasar was walking toward the adjacent street where their service vehicle was parked, his assailants appeared and shot him point-blank.

Sensing that Ansari and Ismael were also armed, Rosales said, the suspect shot the two who had waited for Dimasar at the building's main entrance.

"Dimasar was talking with somebody on his cell phone when he was shot. We are still investigating if the person he was talking to was linked to the suspects," Rosales told the INQUIRER in a mobile phone interview.

The Cavite police chief said the gunman even alighted from their motorcycle and took the victims' firearms. He said the victim had a license to carry a gun.

The incident triggered a commotion in the town's busiest district as some passersby and vendors ran for safety, Rosales said.

He added that they were able to recover 13 spent shells from a 9 mm pistol from the crime scene.

Chief Insp. Antonio Yarra, town police chief, said that as the suspects were fleeing from the scene, their motorcycle bumped into a passenger jeepney.

The suspects then commandeered a tricycle as they escaped towards Imus town.

Yarra said Dimasar's alleged involvement in the illegal drug trade in Cavite might have something to do with the shooting.

He said the village chief had been on their watch list of suspected personalities who are in the illegal drug business.

"He was on our list but he was able to clear his name. But for now, his alleged dealings with a local drug syndicate remain the main motive for the killing," Yarra said. ***Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Fraternity brothers nabbed fleeing crime scene

By Leila B. Salaverria

TWO FRATERNITY members were arrested in Manila the other night for allegedly killing an Adamson University student by shooting and stabbing him after a school concert.

Suspects Grigor Ariston, 28, and Adamson University student Anthony Alesna, 23, were allegedly two of 12 men who ganged up on Frederick Vergara, 20, an engineering student at the Adamson University.

Ariston and Alesna were arrested by members of the Western Police District's mobile unit as the two were fleeing the crime scene. WPD homicide chief Sr. Insp. Dominador Arevalo said the two suspects had been wearing bloodstained shirts when arrested.

Arevalo also said he believed that all of the 12 suspects were all members of a fraternity, and that the killing could be related to a fraternity rivalry. Both Ariston and Alesna claimed to be members of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity, while Vergara was allegedly a member of the Tau Gamma fraternity. Police are looking into other motives.

The two suspects denied involvement in the incident, with Ariston saying that the blood on his shirt had come from a wound on his head. Both also said they did not know Vergara.

NBI's shootout claim raises cops' eyebrows

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Was it really a shootout? Or did the National Bureau of Investigation operatives get it all drawn up?

Residents and even some police officials of Laguna had their doubts about the alleged shootout that happened between NBI agents and members of the Digoy robbery group at the Southwoods exit of the South Luzon Expressway in Biñan town on Friday afternoon.

A police investigator in Laguna, who requested not to be named, said the NBI operation which left seven suspected robbers dead seemed to have been "scripted" right from the start.

He said the manner the NBI agents and members of the National Capital Region police carried out the operation "looked as if they had it all drawn up."

"They seemed to know already what would happen. Why were media there at once?" the investigator asked.

He also questioned the NBI's claim that there was a car chase prior to the gun battle. He said even the footage of GMA-7 before the shootout happened "clearly showed that there was no car chase."

He said that had there been one, the suspects would not pass by the SLEX but the national road. He also derided the failure of the NBI to properly coordinate with the local police.

The source, however, reiterated that he believed the suspects were members of the dreaded robbery gang.

Meanwhile, the NBI doused skeptics' doubts by saying that it had evidence to prove that the seven suspects were killed in a shootout.

"It was a legitimate operation," NBI-National Capital Region division chief Edmund Arugay yesterday said of the incident.

Arugay said the NBI conducted a stakeout and had gathered evidence that would link the suspects to a robbery in Calamba. ***Leila B. Salaverria and Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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DANILO Sabas holds up a rock which he believes has a gold deposit after he pulled it out of a polluted river in Quezon City. AFP

Gold!

Find stirs QC community

HUNDREDS of people have flocked to a polluted stream in an overcrowded slum in Quezon City after some residents found gold nuggets there, witnesses said Saturday.

A village chief said it was a puzzle as to how the nuggets got into the trash-strewn and heavily silted San Francisco River in Barangay Damayan.

"It is a puzzle. All we got from there before was trash," he said.

Alfredo Gallo, 15, found a nugget of gold after scouring the riverbed under the Engr. R.A. Aquino Bridge on Friday.

His father sold the gold to a pawnshop for P30,000 and bought a television set and a bicycle.

"I scratched the riverbed with a stick and saw a yellow thing glittering. I immediately took it and ran home," Gallo told the Agence France-Presse.

The channel frequently overflows during the rainy season, flooding low-lying slums and causing intestinal diseases.

Construction worker Danilo Sabas, meanwhile, drove from the other side of Manila and took off from work to pan for gold in the stream as children played and swam nearby.

He used fish nets and steel pans and ploughed the waterbed before finding a small piece of metal which he believed was gold. He showed it to photographers and said he would take it to a pawnbroker later in the day.

"I will sell this immediately," he said. *AFP*

3 Fil-for PBA stars in alleged attack in bar

By Nancy Carvajal

THREE Filipino-foreigner superstars of the Philippine Basketball Association were accused of mauling a customer in a posh bar and restaurant in Makati at 4:30 a.m. last Sept. 26.

Police said Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola, Eric Menk of Ginebra and Asi Taulava of Talk 'N Text were identified by victim Peter Dizon, 38, of 23 Concord St., Olympus Subdivision, Novaliches, Quezon City.

Dizon told police that Hatfield hit him then struck him with a bottle without provocation while he was inside the Venezia Bar, located at the ground floor of Glorietta 2 in the Ayala Center.

Dizon added that he was already on the floor when Taulava, Menk and four unidentified men kicked and punched him, not even sparing his genitals.

Pulled from the floor

According to Dizon, the alleged assault only stopped when someone pulled him from the floor and brought him to the bar's kitchen where he was given first aid.

P03 Carmelito Valiente said the victim filed a complaint only last Oct. 1.

Valiente said Dizon wanted to recuperate before filing a complaint.

The investigator said the victim submitted a medico-legal report issued by the Makati Medical Center and signed by Dr. Francisco Manalo.

According to the medico-legal report, Dizon suffered a wound in the right temple that required four to five stitches, abrasions on the right elbow and bruises all over the body.

The victim said he did not know the suspects but was able to recognize them through photos showed to him by witnesses.

Charges of slight to serious physical injuries will be filed against the suspects.

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text 2910

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"wala parang tulad ng mga reality tv shows enjoy panoorin kahit na alam mong scripted"
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Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Mangulat

BASEBALL: MLB-Braves vs Cubs; 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. (r); ESPN—Take another look at the duel on diamond between Atlanta and Chicago.

TENNIS: ATP Thailand Open; 2 p.m.; Star Sports—Check out the replay of the semifinals and the live airing of the Finals from Bangkok.

MOTOR SPORTS: F1 Chinese Grand Prix; 8 p.m.; Star Sports—Catch highlights of the first ever F1 race in China.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

PBA new season kicks off

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
4 p.m.—Opening ceremonies
6 p.m.—San Miguel Beer vs Talk 'N Text

By June Navarro

THE LONG-TERM program of the Philippine Basketball Association for the national team officially begins today when the pro league unveils its new-look 30th season at the Araneta Coliseum.

Dubbed as the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup, the All-Filipino tournament, opening what officials call a season of change, marks the start of the search for prospective players for the ABC championship, the qualifying event for the World Championship and the Olympics.

San Miguel Beer and defending All-Filipino champion Talk 'N Text collide at 6 p.m. to kick off the league's new format and schedule after an extravagant opening ceremony.

The Beermen will be without ace scorer Danny Seigle, who had bone spurs in his left Achilles tendon removed recently. Seigle is expected to be back between mid-October and the end of the month.

"It could have been much earlier but the doctors had to cut a portion of the tendon to remove the bone spurs. We're hoping he can be back by mid-October but we're willing to wait until the end of the month," said San Miguel coach Jong Uichico.

The Beermen still look formidable with Danny Ildefonso, Olsen Racela, Nick Belasco, Dorian Peña and Dondon Hontiveros leading the charge.

Asi Taulava, Willy Miller, Jimmy Alapag, Yancy De Ocampo, Vic Pablo, Mark Telan and Bong Ravena, with the addition of Don Camaso and rookie Nino Gelig, form the core of the Phone Pals' powerhouse cast.

Taulava, however, faces sanction by the league once the PBA enforces a new directive against those who try to impede the ongoing investigation of the Department of Justice on the alleged fake Fil-fors.

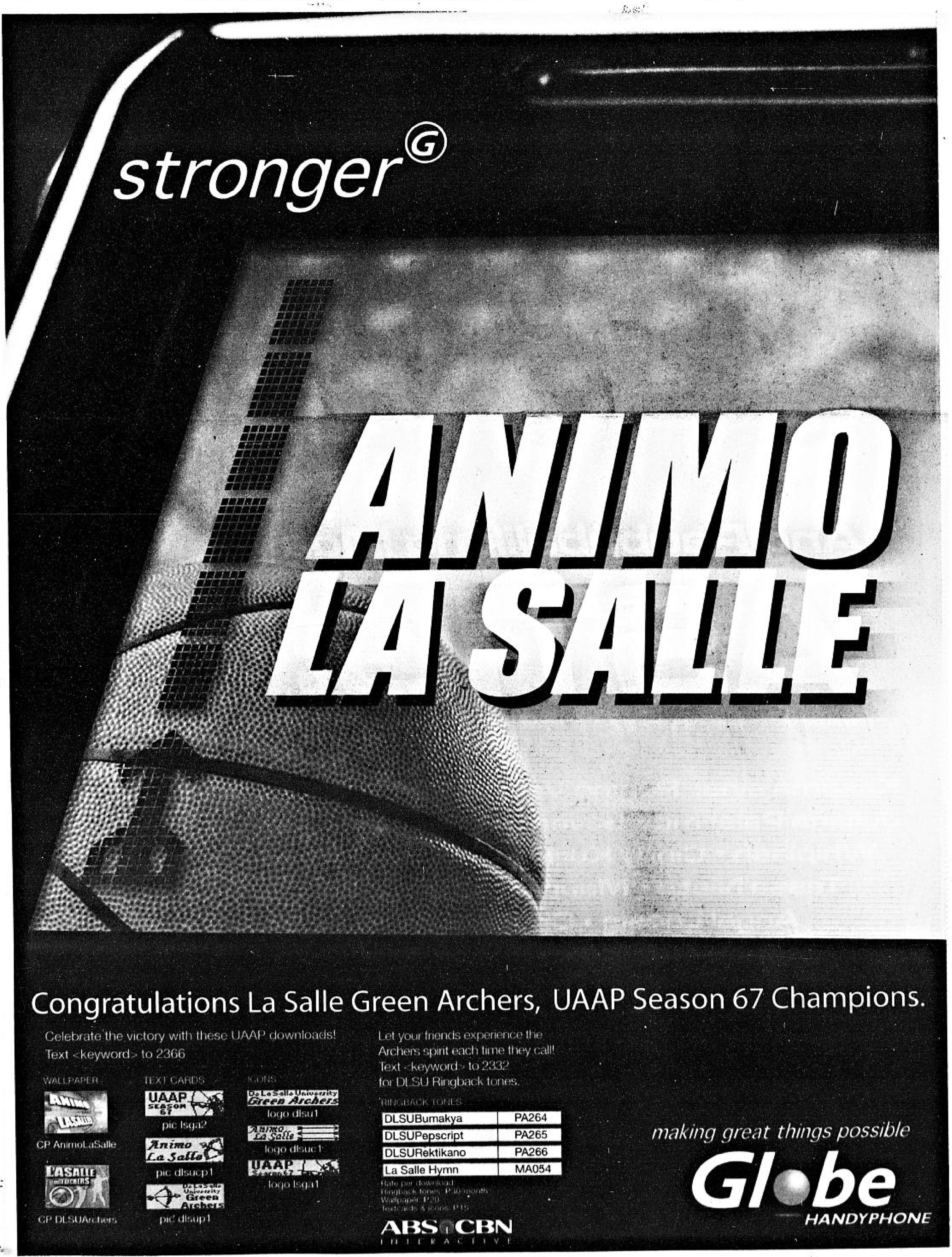
One of the nine Fil-fors recommended for deportation by the Senate since last year, the reigning league MVP had

PBA/ A30

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Reyes rules 8-ball /A27

■ Ichiro blows away 84-year hit record /A29



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HORSE DISEASE

Owners back Philracom campaign

THE COUNTRY'S major horseowners' groups threw their support behind the Philippine Racing Commission's vigorous drive to rid the racing industry of the dreaded horse disease called EIA or equine infectious anemia.

Philracom chair Jimmy Dilag yesterday said the Metropolitan Association of Race Horse Owners, Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization, and Klub Don Juan de Manila as well as other independent owners and breeders have given their nod on the massive testing campaign being conducted at present by the racing body in coordination with the Bureau of Animal Industry.

"We got a favorable response and the support of the Marho, Philtobo and KDJM when we told them that the key to EIA prevention is the identification and control of infected horses. We're optimistic that we'll win this fight against the disease," said Dilag.

The Philracom started conducting the test, known as the Coggins' test, following the recent announcement of Department of Agriculture Sec. Roberto Sebastian, through Administrative Order No. 5, that the dangerous communicable disease exists in some parts of the country.

The Coggins' test, named after prominent American veterinary virologist Dr. Leroy Coggins, is the practical diagnostic test for identifying horses infected with EIA. To date, there is no known vaccines for EIA.

DILAG

JOSE

At the start of the all-out battle against EIA, a total of 27 out of the 685 horses stabled at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite, were found to be infected, prompting the Philracom to cancel their racing permits and have them quarantined.

Moreover, infected horses were recommended by the BAI to be destroyed through mercy killing or euthanasia, while the Philracom immediately issued guidelines and drafted an eradication program for EIA.

"We support the BAI recommendation but it's not within our mandate to have sick horses euthanized," said Dilag, explaining that owners may decide to have their infected gallopers euthanized or quarantined.

Dilag also lauded the concern shown by top owner Hermie Esguerra about the campaign by having his infected horse, Rumaragasa, destroyed.

Meanwhile, Philracom executive director/commissioner Eddie Jose said a total of 171 horses stabled at the Santa Ana Park in Makati have already been tested since Sept. 28. Another batch of 100 will be tested tomorrow.

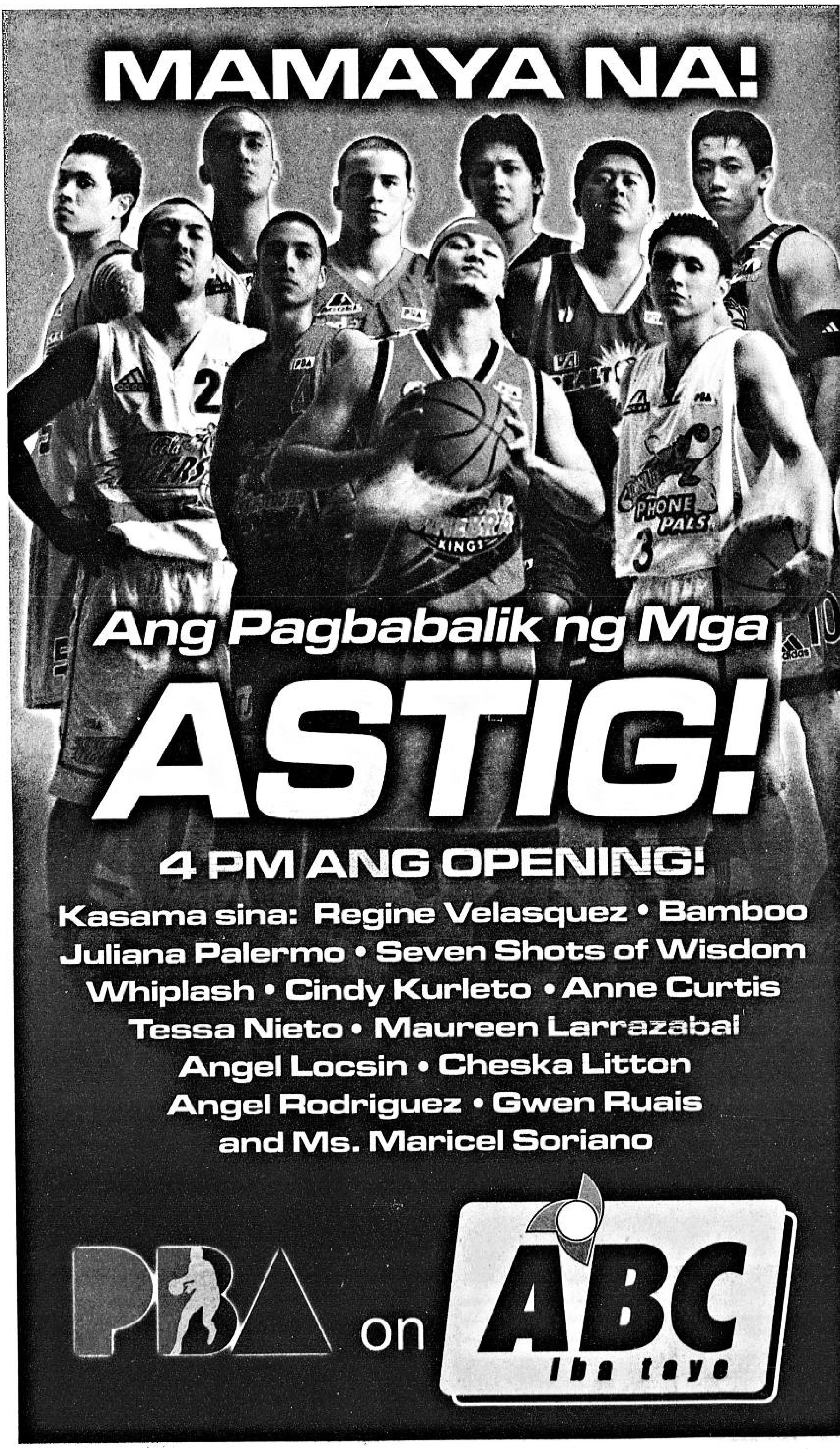
"We will continue to cancel the permits of those horses found positive for the disease. This drive against the EIA menace will be without letup," stressed Jose.

EIA, also known as "swamp fever" due to its high occurrence in the Gulf Coast of the United States, is an infectious and potentially fatal disease that affects a horse's immune system. It is called "sabsade" and "lagnat bumbay" in the Philippines.

According to veterinary experts, the disease is mechanically transmitted from one horse to another by the bloodsucking horse flies, deer flies and mosquitoes. Among its symptoms are fever, hemorrhage, weight loss, depression, frequent urination, diarrhea and rapid breathing.

It can also be deadly during breeding once a stallion passes the disease to a healthy broodmare and may result to abortion.

Edwin Villanueva, Contributor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PBA on ABC
Iba tayo

MJC to host Artists Cup

TOP THOROUGHBREDS from the country's leading racing stables have been invited to compete in the 1st Filipino Artists Cup set on Oct. 9 at the San Lazaro Leisure Park (SLLP) in Carmona, Cavite.

Among the celebrated local bets expected to run are West Bound, Red Star Rising, Dandansoy, Material Maker and Ariba King, as well as import group standouts Key Apo, Ouzo, Neat Laurel and Being There.

Manila Jockey Club Inc. (MJCI), in cooperation with the Asian Cultural Council of the Philippines, is hosting the very first horse racing event for the benefit of deserving Filipino artists.

"Manila Jockey Club is honored to host this special racing meet to raise funds for study and career enhancements grants to worthy Filipino artists and scholars responsible for preserving our rich cultural heritage," said MJCI president and chief executive Alfonso Reyno Jr.

Major sponsors of the event include Smart Infinity, ING Bank, SM Prime Holdings and LVN Pictures.

Anniversary race at PRC

THE PHILIPPINE Racing Club Inc. (PRCI) rolls out the red carpet for one of racing industry's staunch supporters when it hosts the Tanduay 15th Anniversary Cup, showcase event of its annual Grand Futurity race card today at the Santa Ana Park.

Carrying a guaranteed prize pot of P370,000, the featured futurity race marking the 15th founding anniversary of the country's premier rhum is a restricted stakes for maiden graduates at the Santa Ana Park from July 1, 2003 to June 30.

Four locally bred, 3-year-old gallopers are set to dispute the Tanduay Cup led by champion filly Cover Girl, impressive winner of the Lakambini Stakes and the Drilon Founders' Cup races in her most recent outings.

Owned and bred by the famed C&H Enterprises Racing Stable of the Mamon family, the multititled filly will use the event as her launching pad to two major racing championships slated this month.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Nagmamahal 2. Pasirit 3. Gold Prosperity
Race 2—1. Black Squall 2. Be My Pride 3. Can and Will 4. Smarty Bally
Race 3—1. Ragini 2. Speed Machine 3. Hazmoore
Race 4—1. Dashing 2. Shining Lance 3. Raven 4. Daldalera 5. Namaste
Race 5—1. Semper Spirit/Reigns Supreme 2. Propensity 3. Batangas Force 4. Jay Nicole
Race 6—1. Si Isidro Ko 2. Bullish Dream 3. Federal Court 4. Blitzkrieg
Race 7—1. D As in Dixie 2. Hezabellagio 3. Worth Ur While 4. Sea of Galilee/Super Hero 5. Aya's Star
Race 8—1. Cover Girl 2. Paramount
Race 9—1. Money Maker 2. Fancy Free 3. Noble House 4. Ravishing Raffy 5. Last Dance
Race 10—1. Rowena's Pride 2. Princess Dancer 3. Guts 4. Real Gem 5. Native Talent
Race 11—1. Adam's Call 2. Mossette 3. Lord of All 4. All for Glory
Race 12—1. Great Tower 2. I Don't Dance 3. Golden Snakehotdog 4. Sheza Slew 5. Tenacity
Race 13—1. My Lucky One 2. Andee's Gold 3. Schwarzenegger 4. Ocean Cookie 5. Mercurian 6. All Powerful

Reyes shines

REY REYES of Autoklasse sizzled last weekend, bringing home four trophies in the fifth leg of the 2004 PCSO Grand Prix at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Reyes, backed by Autoklasse, Tropical Ice Sparkling Water, GBSI, Jose Aliling Inc. and Matonetics Engine Dynamics, got two trophies for winning both races in the Class B division aside from finishing second and third in the national Touring Car championship.

For his weekend feat, he accumulated 22 points in both races that installed him second overall with 88 points, just three points behind the frontrunning Jody Coseteng who now holds a total of 91 points.

JR TENNIS

Sayer, Ukuma cop titles

MARTIN Sayer of Hong Kong and Ayumi Ukuma of Japan ruled their respective divisions yesterday in the 2004 Enervon Tablet-Futures Foundation International Juniors Tennis Championships at the Ynares Socio-Cultural Sports Center in Pasig City.

The top-ranked Sayer, whose parents are British nationals, won the boys' singles title over unranked local Nico Riego De Dios, 6-3, 6-4.

"It was a tough match. My opponent played quite well. He had a very good topspin," said the 17-year-old Sayer after winning his third singles title.

Last Friday, Sayer and Lai Xiao Peng beat No. 2 Filipino pair Ralph Kevin Barte and Kyle Joshua Dandan, 7-6 (5), 6-3, for the doubles title. Sayer's other doubles titles include two legs in Thailand and one each in Vietnam and Hong Kong.

Okuma, a 14-year-old junior high school student from Chiba City, swept the girls' singles and doubles titles in this event also supported by Unilab, Adidas, Prince rackets, Toby's, Nassau balls and Holiday Inn Manila Galleria.

Armed with a huge forehand, the fifth-seeded Okuma stunned third seed Filipino-German Anja Vanessa Peter, 6-4, 6-0, to pocket her first ITF Juniors Circuit singles title.

"I can't stay in the baseline because Peter was consistent in returning the ball so I went to the net and forced her to commit errors," said Okuma through an interpreter.

The unranked pair of Okuma and Natsumi Yokota bagged the doubles title over third seeds Lin Jing Chi and Wang Chieh Ju of Chinese Taipei, 2-6, 7-5, 6-3.

"I'm happy to win the singles and doubles. I hope I can maintain my good performance and be in the final again in the next tournament," said Okuma, who had won 20 titles since she started competing at the age of 10.

For the 16-year-old Peter, who was tapped by the Philippine Tennis Association to play for next year's Manila SEA Games, it was a learning experience being in her first-ever final appearance.

"I led several times in the first set but she (Okuma) always managed to catch up. I had difficulty in the second set because she had so much confidence and was playing consistently while I made some faults," said the 5-foot-8 Peter, who had competed in European Tennis Association tournaments and was a semifinalist in two ITF Juniors Circuit.

Peter led 3-2 and tied the score at 4-4 with a break in the seventh game but Okuma broke back in the ninth and won the next game to take the first set.

Peter, whose mother is a Filipino, was born in Saudi Arabia and grew up in Moefelden-Waudorf town in Germany.

Meanwhile, the 2nd leg of the ITF Juniors Circuit backed by Phinma Group will start Monday.

23rd PCA Open slated Nov. 13-21

LOCAL tennis' rated players pit skills with promising young talents and foreign challengers in the 23rd edition of the Philippine Columbian Open slated Nov. 13 to 21 at the Philippine Columbian Association courts in Plaza Dilao, Paco.

The PCA Open, which has produced some of the finest players the past two decades, is presented this year by Basilan Gov. Muslim Wahab Akbar.

"With the Southeast Asian Games fast approaching and the country's declaration to win the overall championship, RP tennis is kicking off its own bid to play a major role in the campaign with the staging of the 23rd PCA Open.

"And with the expected participation of the best netters from all over the country, some tough players from abroad, we see no reason why this year's PCA Open will fail in its promise to be the best staging ever," said Akbar.

Also backing the event are Cebuana Lhuillier, Diadora, PVL Restaurant, Little Lawrence Inc., Copacabana Hotel, San Miguel Corp., Coca-Cola Bottlers Phils., Las Palmas Travel, Sun Village Resort and Equitable PCI Bank.

PCA Open chair Efren Ocampo said the tournament is now accepting entries for the men's and ladies open, singles and doubles and juniors singles and doubles categories.

Deadline for the men's and ladies is Oct. 25.

This early, 16 clubs from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao have signified their intention to join.

BATA Reyes: Sharp as ever

Reyes rules 8-ball

EFREN "Bata" Reyes exacted revenge on compatriot Marlon Manalo, 11-8, yesterday to win the World 8-Ball Championship in Fujairah, United Arab Emirates.

It was the fourth 8-ball title for the Filipino pool icon, who lost to Manalo in the round of 16 of the World Pool Championship in Taipei two months ago.

The event was dominated by Filipinos with Reyes crushing buddy Django Bustamante, 10-4, and Manalo edging Alex Pagulayan, the Fil-Canadian winner of the world pool event, in the semifinals.

Reyes' victims in the knockout phase were Germans Oliver Ortmann, 10-3, and Ralf Soquet, 10-6, and Marcus Chamat of Sweden, 10-5.

A total of 64 players took part including US-based Filipino Jose "Amang" Parica, who bowed out in the Round of 32.

Manalo, a former snooker ace whose campaign is supported by Solar Sports, defeated local hero James Alortega in the Round of 32 before scoring a pair of 10-5 wins over Germans Thomas Engert and Michael Schmidt in the succeeding rounds. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

DLSU entries advance

DE LA Salle's Michelle Guerrero and Therine Chan scored hard-earned victories yesterday to reach the girls' singles semifinals in the Del Monte 202 Cup First Collegiate Badminton Open at The Zone in Malugay, Makati City.

Guerrero needed an extra set to beat University of the Philippines' Ronielle Kagalingan, 11-5, 2-11, 11-2, to advance against Far Eastern University's Ma. Theresa Sebastian, a 13-10, 13-12 winner over University of Santo Tomas' Kathleen Anasco.

Chan, on the other hand, recovered from a first-set loss to prevail over UST's Rose Ann dela Cruz, 2-11, 11-2, 11-6, and forge a semifinal showdown with FEU's Criselda Sarabia, who scored an 11-2, 11-2 victory over UE's Jane de Jesus.

In the boys' singles division, UE's Heidenberg Dimarucut rallied past UST's Reynaldo Selga, 5-15, 15-13, 15-3, to advance against La Salle's Rhaul Angeles, a 15-2, 15-0 winner over Nueva Ecija University Science and Technology's Alfredo Angeles.

FEU's Wilson Frias downed Technological Institute of the Philippines' Edison Serrano, 15-6, 15-2, to advance against UE's Rodil Sertan, who conquered La Salle's Rodel Dawal, 15-6, 15-8.

In the boys' doubles division, La Salle's Rhaul Angeles and Michael Paclibar downed FEU's Wilmer Frias and Jimson Dionisio, 15-6, 15-13.

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TITLE FAVORITE: Maria Sharapova prepares to fire a shot against Anne Kremer of Luxembourg during the semifinals of the Korea Open Saturday. Sharapova won, 6-0, 6-2. AP

Federer crashes Paradorn's party

BANGKOK—Roger Federer dashed the hometown victory dream of fourth seed Paradorn Srichaphan, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3, Saturday to blast into the final of the Thailand Open Saturday over Asia's tennis hero.

Federer, who has not lost a final in well over a year, stands a step away from a 10th trophy this season; he awaits a winner from another star-studded semifinal: Andy Roddick versus Marat Safin.

"I'm sorry I had to beat Paradorn in Thailand," said Federer, who has already secured this year's world No. 1 ranking. "I know how much he wants to win here.

Federer, the runaway success story of this year with three of the four Grand Slam titles to hand, won his 68th match of the season against just six losses.

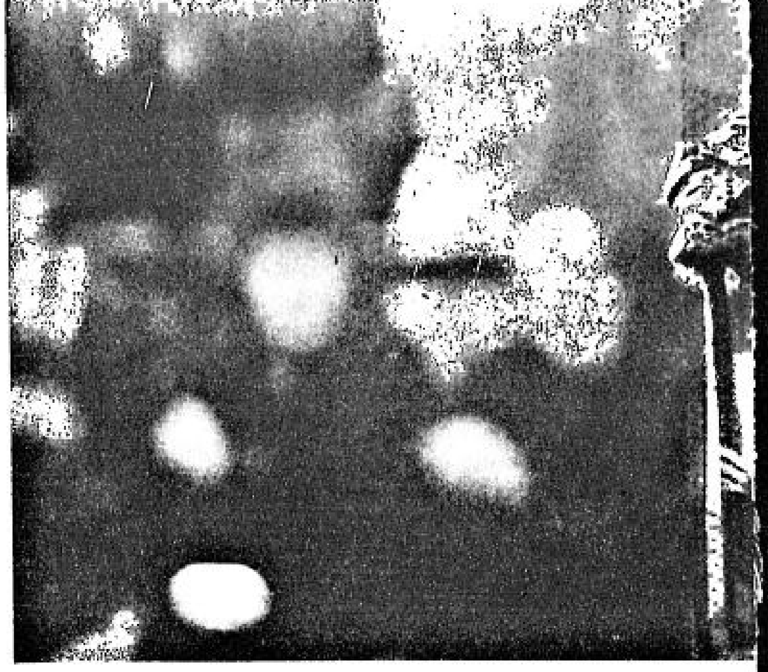
The Swiss dropped the second set as Thai idol Paradorn, playing in front of a sellout 10,000-strong crowd at the Impact arena, saved three set points and squared the match as Federer missed a volley.

But the Swiss hung tough in the final set.

The polite Thai crowd gave both players the respect they deserved—and Federer felt their warmth.

"Paradorn was playing with a lot of confidence," said Federer. "He was winning a lot of the rallies in the first set. I hope Paradorn can win this tournament someday. I know how much it means to him." *AFP*

SWINGING at the pitch of Texas Ranger Ryan Drese, Seattle Mariner Ichiro Suzuki sends a ground ball up the middle for the record-breaking hit. AP



Gasol, Peja stay rooted to old teams

MEMPHIS, Tennessee—Pau Gasol has been in the NBA for three seasons. That's been long enough for the Spaniard to realize he wants to keep working with Memphis bigwigs Jerry West and Hubie Brown.

GASOL

STOJAKOVIC

The Memphis Grizzlies agreed to terms with the 2002 NBA rookie of the year on a six-year contract extension. He still has one year left on his rookie contract.

Gasol, 24, led the Grizzlies last year with 17.7 points, 7.7 rebounds and 1.69 blocks per game. He ranked 20th in the NBA in field goal percentage and 18th in blocks.

Gasol changed agents last spring hoping to find someone who could help him work out a deal keeping him with West, the Grizzlies' president of basketball operations, and Brown, last season's NBA coach of the year.

"I know those two are hard workers and true competitors and two of the classiest guys in the league," Gasol said on Friday by telephone during a Grizzlies golf tournament.

In Sacramento, California, Peja Stojakovic still wants the Kings to trade him. Until then, he seems perfectly happy to be back.

After a summer in which he became a father, served in the Greek Army and shocked his teammates by asking to leave Sacramento, the NBA's second-leading scorer last season reported to training camp as scheduled on Friday.

Stojakovic seemed upbeat and excited to see his teammates as they began preparations for their preseason trip to China.

"I'm still standing behind the words I said in August, but I am professional," Stojakovic said. "I have a contract with the Kings, two years, and I'm going to honor that." *AP*

Teener pulls surprise vs Putra veterans

By Musong R. Castillo

CALATAGAN, Batangas—IG Gutierrez upstaged the Putra Cup veterans in the Class A field yesterday, shooting a four-over 76 in the Calatagan leg of the 2004 Samsung Junior Golf School Season.

The 16-year-old Gutierrez had nines of 37-39 to lead Matthew Manotoc by a shot and Laurence Negrido by seven even as Geleen Handog fired an 84 to lead girls' Class A over Bambee dela Paz.

Manotoc, the brightest performer for the Philippine Putra Cup junior team in Indonesia, had a 37 coming out, but stumbled with four bogeys and a double bogey against only two birdies coming home for his 77.

Gino Bunyi, also a veteran of what is considered as Southeast Asia's official team championship, never got going and wound up second to last in the field with a 90.

The Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines is using this tournament to determine the eight boys and three girls who will be sent to three major international tournaments.

Slots for the Temecula Singapore Junior Open next month and the Malaysia championships in January are up for grabs for the boys. The foundation will also send four boys and three girls to the tough Asian Junior Masters in Thailand in December.

Debbie de Villa shot an 85 to lead girls' Class B. John Kier Abdon had an 83 to pace boys' Class B even as Pepsi Little People's champion AR Ramos trailed Mark Anthony Arevalo in boys' Class E.

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Ichiro blows away 84-year hit record

SEATTLE—No. 258 for Ichiro Suzuki was like so many others, a little ground ball up the middle.

Only this one made history—a hit cheered 'round the world.

Suzuki set the major league record for hits in a season Friday, breaking George Sisler's 84-year-old mark with a pair of early singles as the Seattle Mariners beat the Texas Rangers, 8-3.

"Through my career, I think this is the best moment," Suzuki said through an interpreter. "I can't really put it into words."

Suzuki later got another hit, giving him 259 this season and a major league-leading .373 average.

Suzuki chopped a leadoff single in the first inning, then put himself in the record book with a bouncer in the third.

Fireworks exploded after Suzuki's big hit reached the outfield, creating a haze over Safeco Field, and his teammates mobbed him at first base.

With fans still cheering, Suzuki ran to the first-base seats and shook hands with Sisler's 81-year-old daughter, Frances Sisler Drochelman, and other members of the Hall of Famer's family.

"My father would have been delighted," Drochelman said later.

Across the Pacific, fans in downtown Tokyo watched Suzuki in sports bars and on big-screen monitors.

"Baseball is America's sport, so for a Japanese player to go over there and break that record is truly amazing," office worker Shigeru Uchida said.

Fans booed when plate umpire Joe West called a rare third strike on Suzuki in the eighth. But fans were back on their feet when Suzuki left for substitute Hiram Bocachica with two outs in the ninth. Mariners manager Bob Melvin made the move to let Suzuki get one more ovation, and the right fielder jogged in to cheers. *AP*

EVEN the toughest conditions fail to slow the steady Ernie Els in the second round. REUTERS

Els breezes to two-shot advantage

THOMASTOWN, Ireland—Playing some of his best golf in the worst conditions, Ernie Els breezed through a wacky day of weather at the American Express Championship and held a two-shot lead on Friday and hopes that he still has a lot to play for this year.

Els started with four straight birdies and posted an 8-under 64.

"I didn't know what to expect today," he said. "I wanted to just try and get myself in position and take every shot as they came."

Els was at 11-under 133, and right behind him was a familiar foe.

British Open champion Todd Hamilton, who went head to head with Els over the final 40 holes at Royal Troon before beating him in a playoff, had one of only two bogey-free rounds at Mount Juliet for a 69 and was at 9-under 135 with Miguel Angel Jimenez (68).

"I've seen everything except snow today," Hamilton said.

Tiger Woods still struggled with a back injury, but he saved his worst grimaces for all the putts he missed.

Just one shot off the lead at one point, Woods took 19 putts over his final nine holes and had to settle for a 70, leaving him five shots behind going into the weekend.

"I just had four holes where I spent a little more time on the green than I should have," Woods said. *AP*

FELIX Trinidad poses during his weigh-in. AFP

Trinidad wary after DL Hoya, Jones defeats

NEW YORK—Mention Bernard Hopkins, and Felix Trinidad winces. Bring up Oscar De La Hoya or Roy Jones, and Trinidad shakes his head.

Back among boxing's biggest names, Trinidad is ending more than two years of retirement by taking on another top fighter, Ricardo Mayorga, in a 12-round middleweight bout Saturday.

Trinidad knows he needs to be careful after what recently happened to De La Hoya and Jones—both were knocked out last month. And a loss to the unpredictable Mayorga, a former welterweight champion, might stymie any shot at a rematch with Hopkins, who handed Trinidad his lone defeat after 41 victories.

"I'm ready for everything Mayorga brings to the table," Trinidad said. "It's boxing, and as long as he sticks to boxing and brings everything to the table for boxing, I'm ready for him."

And then Hopkins? Trinidad isn't answering, although he scrunches his eyes and his shoulders tighten when the middleweight champion is mentioned. Hopkins' 12th-round knockout of Trinidad three years ago was the Puerto Rican pugilist's last significant fight.

"I'm so focused on this fight. I will wait for the result, then begin to speak about my future and everything," Trinidad said. "I'm not nervous about coming back to fight Mayorga. I am coming back to beat Mayorga and then see what other fights are in the future." *AP*

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Camel Supercross 2nd leg in Bacolod

Standings after first leg: 1. G. Aguilar 50 points; 2. J. Saulog 44; 3. B. de la Cruz 40; 4. K. San Andres 36; 5. J. Garcia 31; 6. J. Beach 30; 7. A. Beach 29.

THE 2004 Camel Supercross Championship Series resumes its island-hopping sorties with the staging of the second leg in Bacolod City on Oct. 10.

Venue of the Camel Supercross Championship Series, which is being held as part of the city-wide celebrations of the annual "Masskara" Festival, is the Gaisano Shopping Mall along Araneta Ave.

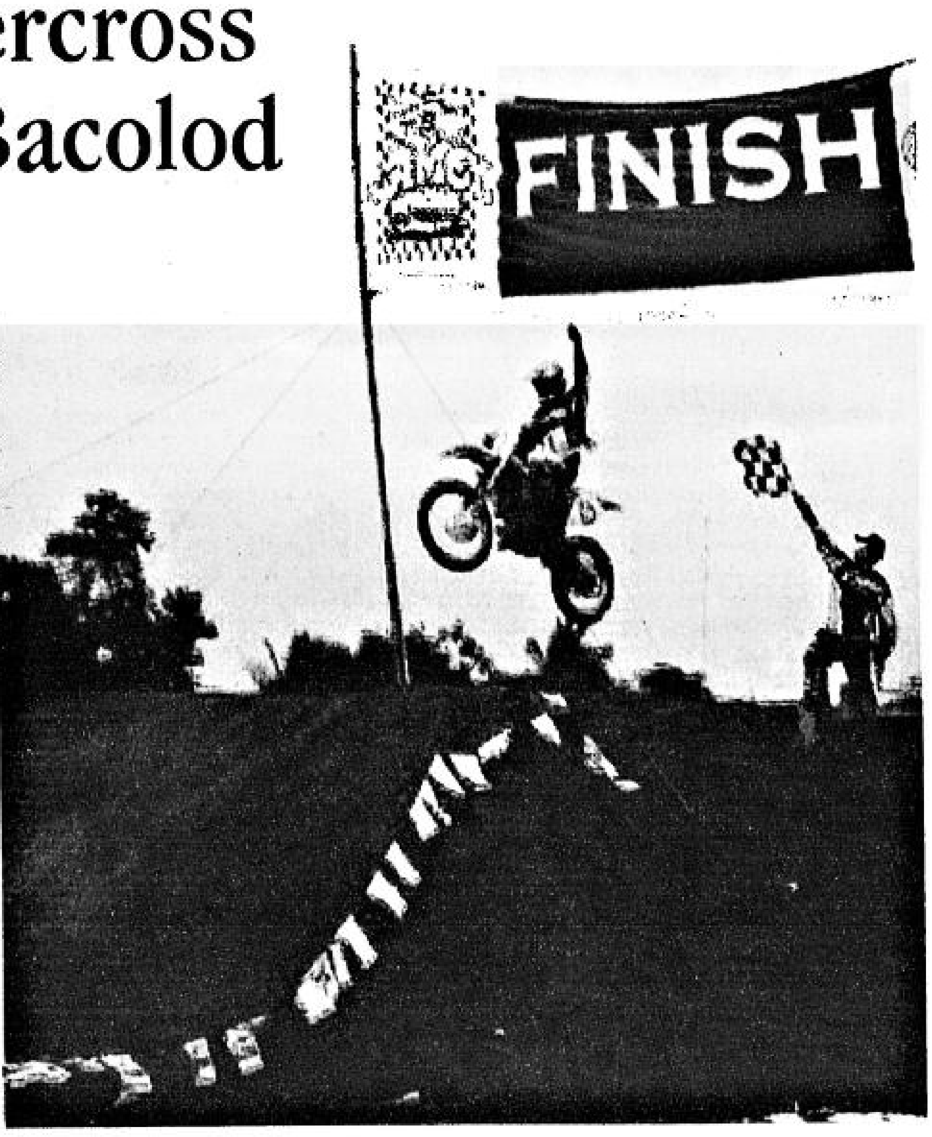
The event was originally scheduled at the Erorico Subdivision, but was moved to a more accessible location at the back of the Gaisano Mall to accommodate an expected huge crowd in this motocross-loving Western Visayas city.

Camel brand marketing manager Edward Cruz said the Bacolod leg of the three-part supercross series is expected to be as successful as the kickoff leg in Roxas City last Sept.19.

"Just like in the kickoff leg in Roxas City, we expect supercross fans to flock to the races and see their favorite riders strut their wares in their brand-new motor bikes for the first time in five years," said Cruz.

The Oct. 10 race will mark the first time in six that Camel will hold supercross races in this sugar-producing city of Negros Occidental.

National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (NAMSSA) president Ken Falco recalled that the last official Camel supercross race in Bacolod City was held last April 18,1998 with Glenn Aguilar sweeping both races in the pro open category and Ernie Leongson dominating the pro 125 class.



GLENN Aguilar shows his winning form in the Roxas leg.

AdU belles draw level

By Jasmine Payo

MARITES Gadian took over in the closing minutes as the Adamson Lady Falcons forged a winner-take-all showdown with the Ateneo Lady Eagles with a 47-46 decision yesterday in Game 2 of the UAAP women's basketball Finals at the Araneta Coliseum.

Gadian, who was named to the Mythical Five, shot seven of her 14 points in the fourth quarter to lift the Lady Falcons to a 46-42 lead with less than three minutes remaining.

Adamson will gun for its second straight title on Oct. 9 at 2:30 p.m. at the Makati Coliseum.

"The pressure is on us because we're the defending champion. But I have my veterans, we have the experience. Ateneo is still new to this," said Adamson coach Emilia Vega.

The Lady Eagles, whose last Finals stint was in 1987, threatened in the final minute as Tin Chua fired back-to-back baskets, 47-46.

But she blew Ateneo's chance to clinch its first title, when her potential winning basket in the last three seconds rolled out.

The Lady Eagles took Game 1 with a 67-64 decision.

Later, the UAAP 1 team of Far Eastern, UP, UST and NU blasted the NCAA 1 selection of players from Philippine Christian, Letran, Mapua and Jose Rizal, 58-54.

UE's KG Canaleta defended his slam dunk title with a one-handed tomahawk jam after leaping over a slightly bent man.

The scores:

First game (Women's)

ADAMSON 47—Gadian 14, Yanez 8, Arayi 7, Jaleco 6, Bombeo 4, Constantino 2, Orbino 2, Lomogda 2, Ravago 2, Rieta 0.

ATENEO 46—Tioseco 15, Chua 10, Villanueva 8, Quimpo 5, Barracoso 2, Grajales 2, Ngo 2, Caynap 2, Tanchi 0.

Quarters: 17-15, 27-25, 35-36, 47-46.

Second game (All-Stars)

UAAP 1 58—Almeda 11, Isip 11, Ibanez 6, Cervantes 6, Luanzon 5, Miranda 4, Chan 4, De Guzman 4, Yabut 2, Mendoza 2, Garcia 2, Cutler 1.

NCAA 1 54—Andaya 12, Bautista 8, Sanz 8, Guevarra 6, Garrido 5, Castro 4, Santos 3, Fajardo 3, Espinas 0, Solis 0, Sta. Maria 0.

Quarters: 17-10, 34-21, 45-37, 58-54.

Pinoy paddlers scoop up 3 golds

SUBIC—The 12-man Philippine delegation grabbed three golds and four silver medals despite Vietnam's juggernaut in Day 2 of the 5th Southeast Asian Canoe Championships at the Fisherman's Wharf here.

The 34-man Vietnamese delegation scooped up seven gold medals in the different race categories, but the youthful Filipino kayakers held their own in both the seniors and juniors side of the events.

Rookie Marvin Amposta started the gold drive of the Filipino paddlers after topping the junior men's 1,000-meter singles in four minutes 17.75 seconds. Singapore's Weng Chong Ren came in second at 4:42.44.

The third man in the group, Vietnam's Pham Khac Chan, did not finish.

Amposta actually opted to take it easy at the start of the race, paddling with even but powerful strokes before pouring it in the final half of the race.

The Abucay, Bataan native actually had a chance for another medal finish in the 1,000-m seniors singles, but Myanmar's Phone Myint Tayzar crossed his lane and overtook him 500 meter into the race. The junior Batasan High School student ended up fourth.

Jonard Saren and Ryan Ronald Tabagan, both 17 years old, ruled the 1,000-m juniors doubles for the country's second gold, while longtime partners April Mae Peñalosa and Janet Escalona picked up the Philippines' third and final gold for the day in the women's 1,000-m juniors finals.

With Saren setting the pace and Tabagan keeping the boat on even keel, the Filipinos outsteadied the doubles pairs from Vietnam and Singapore with a time of 4:03.57. Vietnam's Nguyen Manh Long and Nguyen Hai Dong checked in second (4:10.75), while Singapore's Roger Koh and Lee Cheng Jie was third at 4:48.15.

Saren also won three silver medals in the 1,000-m, 500-m and 200-m categories last year in Thailand.

Women cage meet unfurls

THIRTY-EIGHT teams will see action in the three-level Milo Best Center Women's Basketball League, which unfurls at 8 a.m. today at the San Beda College, Alabang (formerly St. Benedict College) courts.

Miriam College, winner of the elementary and high school (competitive) titles, high school (developmental) champion New Era College and college topnotcher UST head the field.

The other entries are:

Elementary—Assumption College, Community of Learners, De La Salle Zobel, Poveda Learning Center, PWU-JASMS, St. Scholastica's College and Trinity College.

High School (competitive)—Assumption College, Colegio de Sta. Rosa, De La Salle Lipa, Immaculate Conception Academy, Miriam College, O.B. Montessori School, San Beda Alabang, Southville International School, St. Bridget School, St. Theresa's College and UP Integrated School.

College—Assumption, Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle Lipa, Miriam College, Philippine Normal University, San Beda Alabang, St. Scholastica's College, University of Asia and the Pacific and UE.

Three La Salle Green Archers—Joseph Yeo, Tyrone Tang and JV Casio—have been invited as guests.

Reynaldo-Ding tops Invitational

REYNALDO Aguilera and Ding Kalinga played two steady rounds and romped off with the overall crown unchallenged in the recent second Eagle Ridge Invitational, the member-guest golf tournament of the sprawling Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite.

Aguilera and Kalinga scored 78 Molave points at the Nick Faldo course then returned the next day to amass 73 at the Greg Norman layout for a 151 aggregate that proved too hot to handle for the big field in the tourney which had Nissan Commonwealth, Globe Platinum and CIGI Insurance as the major backers.

They finished 11 points ahead of the next best team in the final standings, George Samonte and Florante Astilla, who tallied 71-69-140 on the way to clinching the Division II plum.

Felix Cortez-Gary Sales captured Division I while Peter Tan and Jesus Romero won Division II.

Petron and Samsung were the Invitational's other major backers. Constantino Navarro's ticket was picked for the Nissan X-Trail, worth more than a million pesos, which was given away as the grand raffle prize.

Paro seeks WBO title vs Thai

Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

SHERWIN Paro, the country's No. 4 super flyweight, gets a crack at the World Boxing Organization Asia Pacific junior bantamweight title held by undefeated Thai Pramuansak Posuwan on Oct. 28 in Thailand.

This was confirmed the other day by sportsman Tony Aldeguer, who handles Paro's career together with Manila promoter Marty Elorde, the registered manager of Manny Pacquiao.

Another Cebuano, ALA boy Rocky Fuentes, will be fighting in another 12-round championship bout in the undercard.

Pramuansak, is unbeaten in 23 fights with 14 knockouts since winning the WBO crown in January, 2002 with an eighth-round KO of Filipino Julius Agcopra. He has defended the title eleven times, and is looking forward to adding Paro's name to his impressive fight resumé.

His other Filipino victims were Allan Ranada, Mark Sales, Jun Magsipoc, Edwin Gastador, Danilo Pena, Roselito Campana and Albert Cesaor.

The power-punching Paro, 14-3 with 9 KOs, will have to rely on his younger legs and all-around skills to beat the 35-year-old Pramuansak.

Domingo-Mendoza rules GDAP golfest

ROMEO Domingo copped the overall title while Mark Mendoza emerged as the low gross winner in the recent second Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines (GDAP) Invitational golf tournament at the Manila Golf Club course.

The tournament drew players and guests of participating companies in next week's Philippine International Golf Show at the SM Megatrade Hall.

Mike Mendoza topped Class A, Glen Beny Dy ruled Class B, Roland So captured the Class C plum and Margaret Esguerra went home with the ladies division trophy.

Cris Palanca won two of the long-driving contests using a Taylor Made on the ninth and a Mizuno on the 12th.

Jojo Garcia hit the best drive on Callaway hole No. 1 at 286 yards and Paul Genito took the Nike prize at 300 yards on the second hole.

Winners received their prizes from GDAP president Gerald Raymundo and tournament director Randy Rana at the Casino Filipino in Parañaque.

START
PATAKBONG PINOY

WET ROAD AHEAD

Participants ignore the rain as they answer the starting gun during the Beam Zest-O Patakbong Pinoy last Thursday in Taguig. Rowel Manalili and Michelle Losada won the boys and girls title of the 5-km race being conducted by the Media Runners and Sports Promotions and bankrolled by Beam Toothpaste and Zest-O Juice Drinks.

PBA new season . . .

From page A25

secured a temporary restraining order preventing the DOJ from touching his case.

The league dumped its traditional three-conference calendar (January-December) in favor of a fiscal schedule (October-June) with two conferences primarily to suit the needs of the national team.

"This tournament will be part of a strict selection process for the national team. It will be the launching pad for one of the strongest teams the country will ever form," said PBA Commissioner Noli Eala.

The PBA and the Basketball Association of the Philippines led by secretary-general Graham Lim have joined forces and started drawing up plans for the national squad bound for the ABC championships.

Lim was invited to the opening rites along with the bigwigs of all the major stakeholders in the sport such as the UAAP, NCAA and the PBL, including the BAP's nemesis, BAP Inc. chief Nic Jorge.

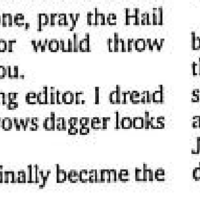
"It's about time we set aside our differences for the sake of the national team. The PBA already gave its commitment, we hope the other basketball-loving organizations will do the same," said PBA Chair Buddy Encarnado.

Hounded by the "Fil-sham" controversy, the league hopes to temporarily shroud it with a colorful opening salvo, highlighted by the parade of teams and their glittering array of muses.

Also invited in the two-hour, opening festival are basketball officials from Indonesia, Brunei, South Korea and the Sheikh of Bahrain in line with the league's initiative toward the formation of an Asian Super League.

The new PBA

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

A READER, who returned to her province after the company she was working with in Manila had closed shop, said: "Returning to my roots was the best decision I've ever made. I've never been happier in my life."

She said: "There's really no place like home."

Today, Grace Rico, informing this corner she had taken up accountancy and "wound up happily counting the happy days in the province," will be among millions watching on TV the opening this afternoon of the 30th season of the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA).

Me too. I won't pass up this chance to watch the pearl anniversary of Asia's first professional basketball league. I'll race from country to city to catch it—on TV, too.

It had been really my plan today to be at the Big Dome for the occasion but for a previous commitment. This time, I couldn't dump, much less, postpone the date for the life of me. I'd lose face if I did that and, call it ego if not pride, it is the one thing I hate: Breaking one's heart.

I had been really looking forward to this day since Commissioner Noli Eala broke the news to me sometime ago: "This year, we'll make it really different, the opening ceremonies most of all. For one, we're introducing an entirely new menu for our fans. For another, this is the 30th season of the PBA—a pearl no less to commemorate the event, and pearl is so precious a stone *di ba?*"

Aha, yes, but hearing him say that, a flood of memories ricocheted in my mind.

Like, it's been that long, indeed, since the day I filed my first PBA story. Ah, how time flies. Seems like only yesterday when I was a scrappy, wide-eyed lad, looking, if not scrounging, for news. You know, our quota of stories back in those days was two a day. You had one, woe to you: The editor would pout. You had none, pray the Hail Mary: The editor would throw dagger looks at you.

I hate a pouting editor. I dread an editor who throws dagger looks at you.

Thus, when I finally became the sports editor here, ending April 1 last year after assuming the post in 1997, I never pouted. Never threw dagger looks at anyone. Ask June Navarro, our PBA expert. Or even Senen Bravo, our resident proofreader.

I pouted only at the fakes of Philippine sports. Threw dagger looks at the scum of Philippine sports. When I did any of those, however, I made sure nobody was looking. After I was done doing any of those, I asked forgiveness from our Dear God, the unseen witness to all the things we do—good or bad. No one's saved.

Anyway, I had a drink with my bilas, Dante T. Fernandez, to mark the day 30 years after I became a sportswriter. That was last Feb. 1, also the birthday of Cecilia "Ching" Juvida, Dante's love for four decades or so now.

A year after I had entered the Bulletin (I stayed there 13 seasons before I moved here in 1986) through Ding Marcelo, whose tenacious backing miraculously transformed then Bulletin sports editor Lito Fernandez from being my No. 1 doubter to No. 1 believer, the PBA was born. I said this here before but I'll say it again because this forms part of my sportswriting history: I was among the few sportswriters (just four, actually) who covered the birth pangs of the PBA at the Mariwasa Bldg. along Aurora Blvd. in Quezon City, with Emerson Coseteng presiding over the league's founding fathers that included, among others, Rafael Hechanova, Doming Itchon, Walter Euyang, Dante Silverio, Ignacio Gotao and Danny Floro.

Oh, well, enough of nostalgia stuff or this might end up into a soap opera.

If you can't go to the Big Dome-I'm sure tickets are as rare as desert oasis today—rely on your TV, or even radio. For, besides history as motif, Commissioner Eala has promised us a show that can prick the heart of even the unsentimental.

If I can't help it, what's one teardrop for the glory of the PBA?

***

FASTBREAK. It's poetry and music on Oct. 5, 8 p.m., at Conspiracy on Visayas Ave., QC, for the benefit of fictionist/novelist Jun Cruz Reyes and his son. They lost their house in Hagonoy, Bulacan, recently to a fire, according to poet Pete Lacaba. Pete relayed the sad news via a text message. For my dear friend Jun, please spare him a line or tune on Tuesday? Leave the applauding to me.

Paragua virtual champ

FILIPINO Grandmaster-elect Mark Paragua continued his amazing run in a chess-crazy land.

Barely two weeks after completing his GM requirements, Paragua nailed another norm and virtually clinched the title with two rounds to go in the 3rd Alushta GMT in Alushta, Crimea, Ukraine.

The indefatigable 20-year-old, playing in his third straight closed tournament within a month, scalped Russian Alexandr Trifonov in the 11th round to notch his ninth point and build a two-point cushion between him and second-running International Master Dmitry Andreikin also of Russia.

A draw in the last two rounds will give Paragua his second title in the Alushta GMT trilogy.

No Filipino has ever won two closed tournaments in a former Soviet Union republic.

Paragua's last two opponents are GM Gennadi Kuzmin of Ukraine and Russian IM Alexsander Obukhov.

Paragua, whose European campaign is supported by Filway Marketing Inc. CEO/president Hector Tagaysay, has actually earned another GM result after beating IM Oleg Loskutov of Russia in the ninth round. The win over Loskutov gave Paragua 7.0 points.

F1 DRIVER
Mild Seven Formula One (F1) team driver Fernando Alonso flew in recently to meet racing aficionados at the "Circuit Rush" party in Powerplant Mall, Rockwell. Alonso shakes hands with Dick Sucgan and Edward Cruz, Mild Seven marketing manager.
ROGER MARGALLO

SPORTSWATCH

Jaro-Mede tiff in Fistorama

"SAMSUNG'S Fistorama" today features an exciting bout in the light flyweight division. Sonny Boy Jaro faces Larry Mede in 10 rounds at 108 lbs. Both fighters are currently top-ranked in the official ratings of the Games and Amusement Board. The bout was one of the featured matches in the fight card held recently at the Angono Municipal Gym in Angono, Rizal. The show is aired weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV. It is aired at 2 p.m., Sundays, on RPN 9.

BIRD Challenge at Malarayat

COMWORKS Inc., a leading distributor of mobile and technological gadgets in the Philippines together with BIRD, China's No. 1 mobile phone, joins forces with Malarayat Ladies, the ladies' golf team of Malarayat Golf and Country Club, for the BIRD Challenge. This event will boost the ongoing scholarship program for the children of rank-and-file employees as well as caddies of Malarayat Golf and Country Club. Now on its 13th year, the Malarayat Ladies have been supporting the said scholarship program. BIRD, the major sponsor of this event, contributed P300,000. With the success of this activity, the Malarayat Ladies will be able to grant five more scholarships to the 16 scholars they have now. The BIRD Challenge will take place on Oct. 9, 8 a.m., at the Driving Range of Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa City, Batangas. Registration is until today.

Goodyear Phils. rules badminton tilt

THE 1ST Isuzu Suppliers Association D'Max Smash Badminton Tournament was held at the Gymix Badminton Gallery, San Pedro, Laguna, recently with 18 companies participating. Goodyear Philippines garnered the overall team championship as it bagged the Female Level A (Fe de la Peña & Lorie Ramos), Mix Level B (Edser Principio & Gabbi Silverio), Men Level C (Binchy Mayuga & Willie Pascual) championships. Asahi Glass won the Men Level A (Arnie Mendoza & Buboy Guillermo), Mix Level A (Marlyn Encinares & Arnie Mendoza), Men Level B (Dale Cruz & Joshua Sumampong) championships. Consolidated Industrial Gas Inc. (CIGI) won the Mix Level C (Joie Cuevas & Annet Nepomuceno), Men Level D (Mike de Guzman & Butch Agbayani), Female Level D (Melanie Corbe & Charisse Mendoza). Kelseat (Marie Silvestre & Joan de Jesus) won the Female Level B. Philippine Auto Components (PAC) won the Female Level C (Karen Reyes & Cy Alcalde). Winterpine won the Mix Level D (Gerald Baltazar & Janet Mendoza). Isuzu Suppliers Association President Ferdi Raquelsantos commends its Sports Committee chair, Rey Ibarra, and vice-chair Aster Torres, and the Association's Secretariat, Armand Bartido/May Almodovar, and the rest of Isuzu's Purchasing Staff who organized the event.

NCA 7-stag derby at Araneta

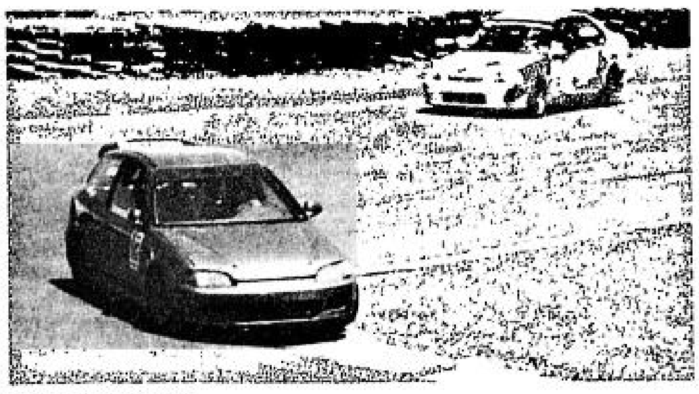
FIERCE competition is expected when leading cockers and breeders compete in the National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-Stag Derby on Tuesday and Thursday, Oct. 5 and 7, at the air-conditioned Araneta Coliseum. The powerhouse team of Gov. Ito Ynares, former DILG undersecretary Jun Santiago and noted breeder Boy Jiao, the current Stagfighter of the Year race frontrunners, will host the event. Expected to provide stiff competition are Metro Manila's top breeders like Patrick Antonio, who is fresh from winning the Pasay 5-Stag derby last Friday, along with Eddie Araneta, Rudy Salud, Nestor Mercado, Tony Tan, Lito Orillaza, Ruel Ricafort and Gerry Ramos. The Central Luzon team will be bannered by Peping Cojuangco, Esting Teopaco, Jingco Brothers, Jet and Joel Fernando, Efren Canlas and Alex Escalona while representing Negros Occidental are Boy Velez, Johnny Jalandoni and Boy Nilo Lizares. From Mindanaro are Rep. Claude Bautista, Boy Primallion and Philip Chiongbian while from Northern Luzon are Rep. Rudy Albano, Rep. Chito Bersamin, Tony Boy Tabora and Pico Berin. From Southern Luzon are Boy Royo, Pol Estrellado and Joey de los Santos. For inquiries, contact 9113101 and 9112928.

Jiao-Araneta leads NCA SOTY race

WITH three more derbies remaining in the thrilling NCA Stag Wars, Boy Jiao and Jorge "Nene" Araneta continued to lead the 2004 Araneta Coliseum NCA Stagfighter of the Year (SOTY) race with 19 points after three derbies. Sharing second spot are Joe Laureno and partners Representative Espina and Medina both with 15.5 points. In solo third is Efren Canlas with 14.5 points, while Richard Bates and Jun Santiago share the No. 4 spot with 13.5 points each. Completing the Top Five is Jet Fernando, Biboy Enriquez and Patrick Antonio with 13 points apiece. The fourth leg of the NCA Stag derby series is set Oct. 5 and 7. It is sponsored by Univet Thunderbird feeds and hosted by Jun Santiago, Ito Ynares and Boy Jiao. Action is slated to begin at 4 p.m.

PTAA stakes Caribbean cruise

A CARIBBEAN Cruise and trips to top destinations in the United States and Asia are at stake in the fifth Philippine Travel Agencies Association (PTAA) Cup golf tournament tomorrow at the Sta. Elena Golf Club course in Cabuyao, Laguna. Tee-off is shotgun style at 7 a.m. About 200 invitees led by PAL VP for Marketing Support Bong Cruz are taking part, according to PTAA president Nit Ragaza who heads the organizing committee. PAL is the co-presenter of the tourney. Other sponsors are Royal Caribbean Cruise, Qatar Airways, Northwest Airlines, Standard Chartered, Continental Airlines, Citibank and Korean Airlines.



TOURING CAR
Enzo Pastor of Speedwelle Racing (car 18) negotiates a sharp curve as he pulls away from top driver Jody Coseteng of San Miguel-Caltex Havoline (No. 16) in the National Touring Car Championship of the 2004 PCSO Grand Prix sponsored by the PCSO through Hon. Rosario Uriarte, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp., Toyota Motors Phils., Norkis Yamaha, Kilton Motors and MOF Company, and also supported by Yokohama, Standard Insurance, Macnell Architectural Paints, NU 107, Dunkin' Donuts and Alaska at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Aikido master seminar

THE FILIPINO Federation of Aikido, through its Kannagara Aikido Club of Davao City in cooperation with Matina Town Square (MTS), is sponsoring the visit of 4th Dan Shidoin Eiji Katsurada from Aikikai, Aikido World Headquarters in Japan.

He is slated to conduct a six-day aikido seminar as well as promotion examinations from Oct. 12-17 for qualified aikidokas. His visit will be capped with an "embukai" (demonstration), which will also be participated in by the different organizations in attendance.

Katsurada's visit is an official event of the Department of Tourism's "Way Out Wonders (WOW) Mindanao" project in line with the objective of promoting Davao City as a center of travel and trade, national and international conventions, sports events, and as a world-class tourist destination offering arts and crafts, feasts and ethnic festivals.

For details call Marielle Macapawa, president of Filipino Federation of Aikido, at 082-2235259, 0918-9408117 or 0927-3998776.

Rico tops US meet

RICO Salimbagat of the Philippine Army scored a perfect five points to rule the open section of the 2004 Gwinnette Open recently in Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Up against United States chess expert David Vest in the last round, Salimbagat sacrificed a knight on an empty square to turn a drawish endgame into a surprising win to complete the sweep.

Salimbagat finished half a point ahead of top seed Stephen Muhammad in the 60-player field.

"I could say that I was just lucky to win the tournament because Muhammad settled for an early draw in the last round and Vest was in time trouble in our game," said Salimbagat, who thanked First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, AFP Chief of Staff Narciso Abaya, Philippine Army Commanding General Efren Abu, Rear Adm. (Ret.) Luisito Fernandez, Honorary Consul General Angelo Macatangay and Mayor Alfredo Corona of Tanauan City for their unwavering support.

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Name ____ Age ____ Gender ____
Home Address ____
School ____ Tel ____ Cellphone ____ Signature ____

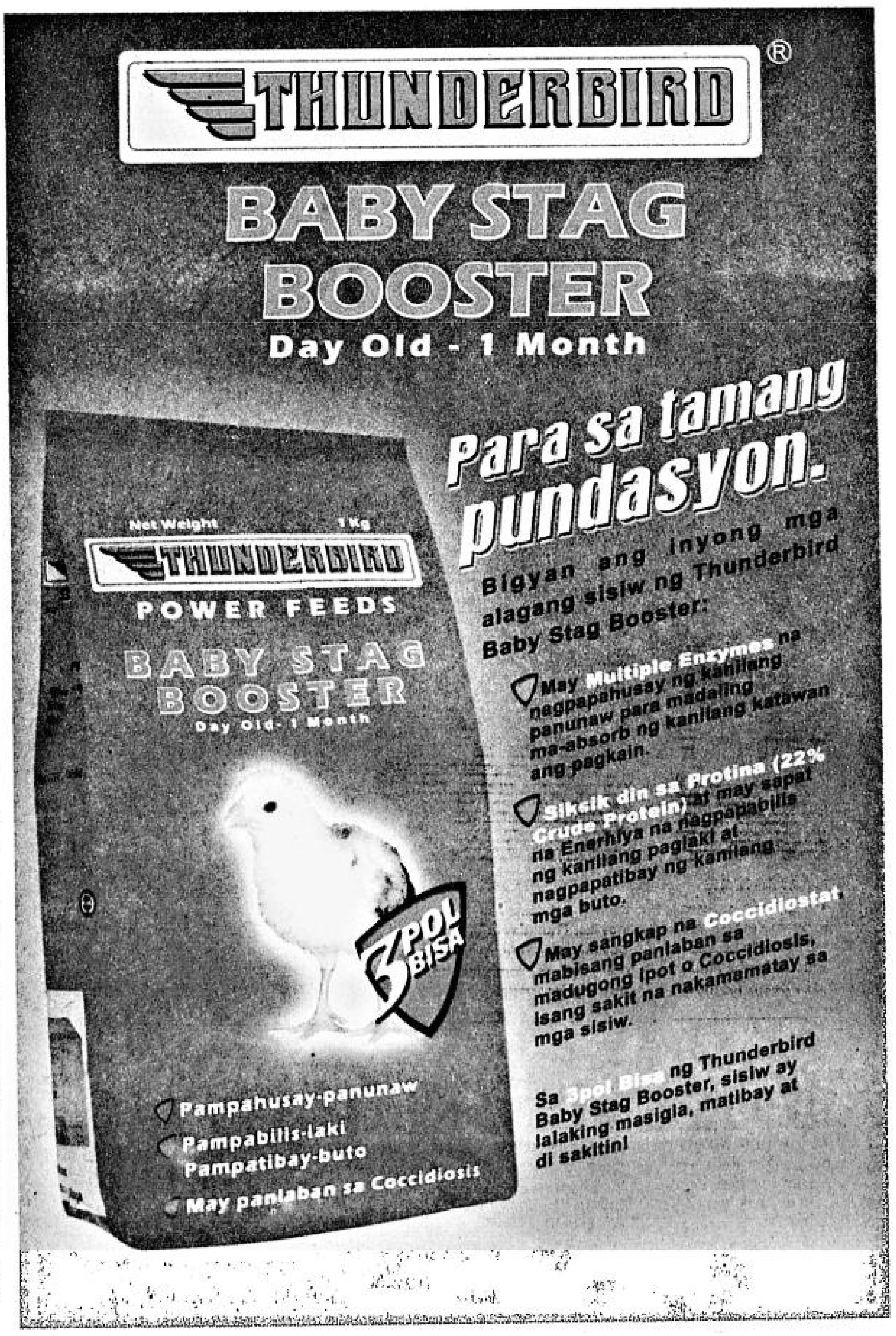
1) Do you read comics or comics strips in newspapers? ____ Yes ____ No (If No, answer only questions 3&4)

2) How often do you read comics or comics strips in newspapers? ____ Everyday ____ 4-6 times a week ____ 1-3 times a week ____ 2-3 times a month ____ once a month ____ less than once a month

3) What particular comics genre do you usually read? Please rank them where 1 is the genre read most often:
____ humor
____ sci-fi
____ fantasy/ magic
____ drama
____ educational
____ romance
____ crime and mystery
____ superhero
____ parody/ satire
____ horror
____ manga/ japanese animation

4) Please name 5 of your favorite comics/ comic strip titles:
a) ____
b) ____
c) ____
d) ____
e) ____

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER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May Multiple Enzymes na nagpapahusay ng kanilang panunaw para madaling ma-absorb ng kanilang katawan ang pagkain.
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THUNDERBIRD
POWER FEEDS
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Pampabilis-laki
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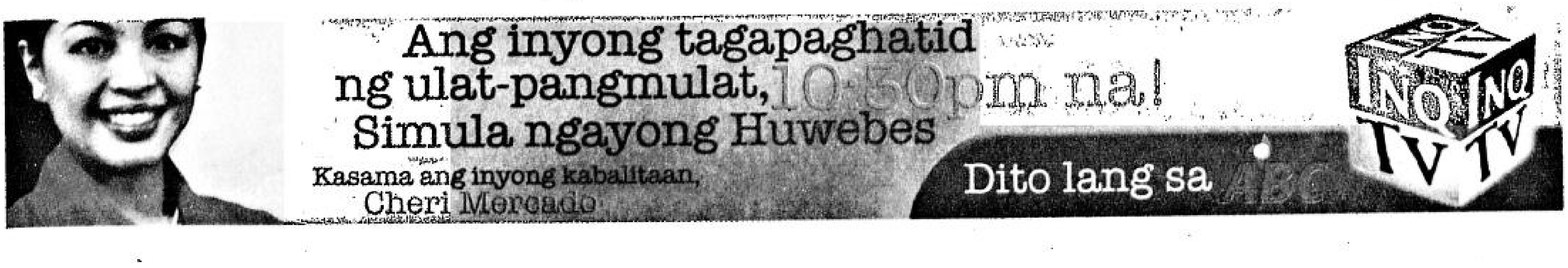
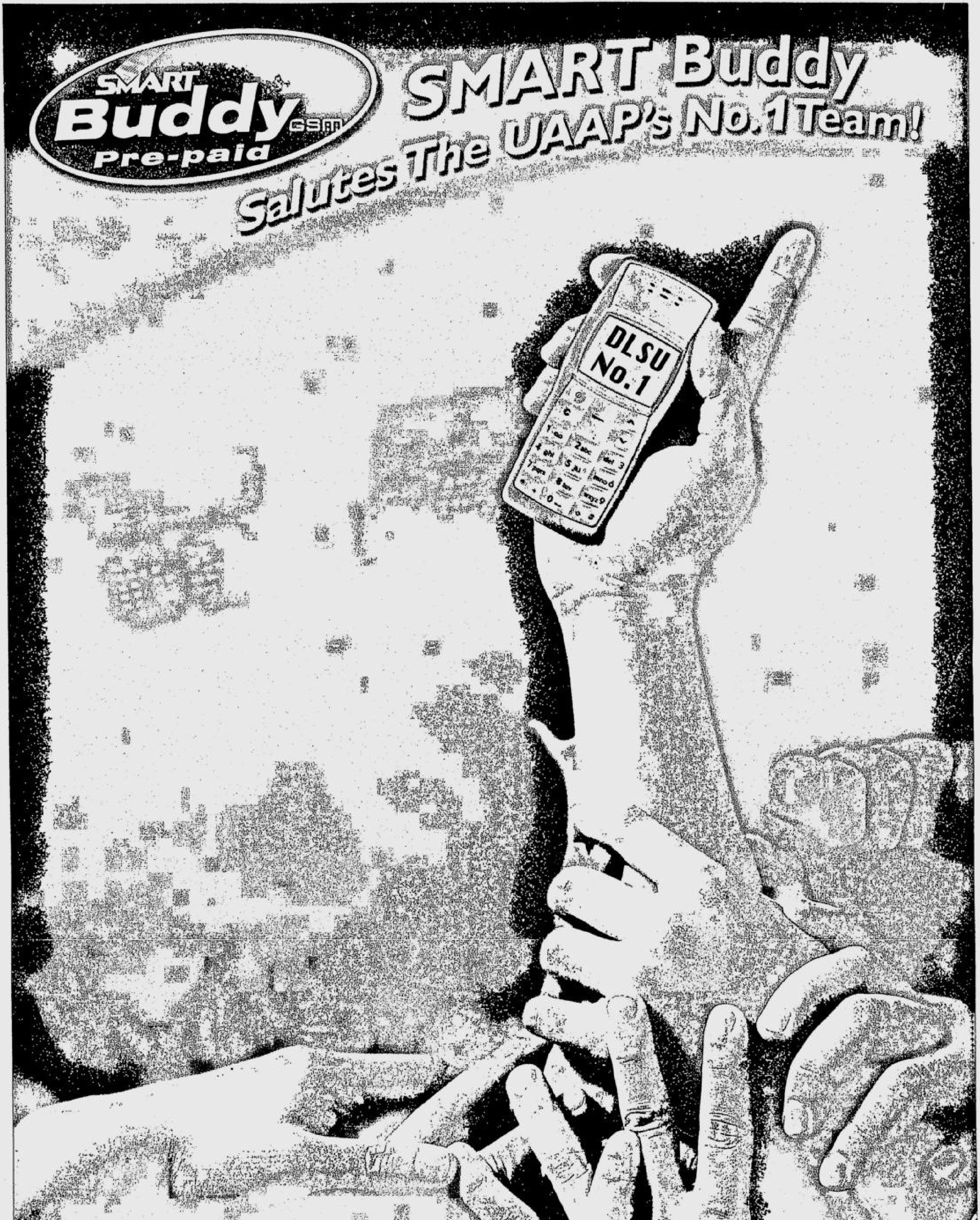
May panlaban sa Coccidiosis

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Salutes The UAAP's No.1 Team!
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Congratulations To The Green Archers!

After a difficult start in Season 67, some were ready to write you off but you never gave up.
You believed that in spite of initial setbacks you were destined to win.
Facing a formidable foe in the defending Champions—who had a remarkable season—you never flinched.
In the end, you showed that of all the great teams that competed, you were the greatest.
SMART Buddy salutes you, your winning attitude and applauds all the UAAP teams for another amazing season.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

'My mom is coming home for good'

"MY SON hated me because of my rumored dates with KC," says dad Piolo.

By Marinel R. Cruz

PIOLO Pascual is happy that his mother will be staying with him for good. His mother, Amelia, 58, has been working in the US for 15 years now.

"She's not a nurse but she's in the medical field," Piolo told entertainment writers last Friday. "I requested her to come home. I told her she will take care of my kids. She cried when she heard that. She'll come home with me in January."

Piolo said he and his son, Iñigo, 7, now have a "pleasant relationship" and the boy is no longer possessive.

Piolo said his "rumored dates" with Sharon Cuneta's daughter, KC Concepcion, early this year had angered his son.

"He would punch the television when I was on the screen and say 'I hate you, Papa,'" the actor related last Friday. "This is why I try not to go out with girls much. I just want to concentrate on taking care of my son.

"We're okay now," he said of his son and himself. "I pray about it a lot. It's hard to rear a child when you are not together with the mom. You have to weigh a lot of things. I don't want him to get the wrong impression that his mom and I are still together.

"Kids his age tend to become insecure, especially when they are growing up without a father. My son used to be shy. But now, he's more outspoken and friendly. He has got a personality now. And he's asking a lot of questions."

Father and son spend Sundays together. They usually go to the Victory Christian Fellowship Church near the Galleria Mall on Ortigas Avenue in Pasig.

Sometimes, the actor takes his son to "Mangarap Ka" tapings in Quiapo, Manila, "so that he can see how I work and understand my lifestyle. I want to be with him everyday, but my work doesn't permit that."

Piolo said he maintains a close relationship with Angelica Panganiban, his co-star on "Mangarap Ka," but he does not want the young actress "to be identified" with him.

ANGELICA Panganiban

"I want her to bloom first, she's still so young," Piolo, 27, says of Angelica, who will turn 18 on Nov. 16.

In "Mangarap Ka," seen weekdays on ABS-CBN, Piolo plays the tough-guy character Oslec opposite Angelica, who plays the eccentric Catherine Sita "Cutie" Carter.

The series shot its final episode last Thursday.

"(Angelica and I) have to move on," Piolo told entertainment writers last Friday. "I don't want her to be identified with me, especially now that she's also doing a movie with Jericho (Rosales)."

Angelica is starring in Laurice Guillen's newest movie, "Santa Santita."

Piolo will be recording his third album, tentatively titled "Piolo Sings Louie." It will contain hits by composer Louie Ocampo.

This month, Piolo will be performing in a series of shows in Sydney and Melbourne with the Hunks.

In November, he will have a show in Hong Kong. In December, he will fly to the US for a series of shows in Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington.

In January, he will do a Star Cinema movie opposite another young actress, Bea Alonzo, who is only 16.

Piolo says there are three things he will miss when "Mangarap Ka" finally ends.

"I won't forget Quiapo and the outskirts of Manila," he said. "That's where we shot the entire series.

"I'll also miss the family we were able to create on the set.

"And I'll miss the routine. We tape three times a week. We were all sad when we found out we're wrapping up."

"Sadly," Piolo added, "Mangarap Ka' will definitely not be extended."

'Ninong' FPJ a no-show

DAVAO CITY—Movie actor Fernando Poe Jr. did not show up at a royal Muslim wedding here last Friday, where he and President Macapagal-Arroyo were among the principal sponsors.

But FPJ's running mate last May, former Sen. Loren Legarda, attended the wedding. She was also one of the sponsors.

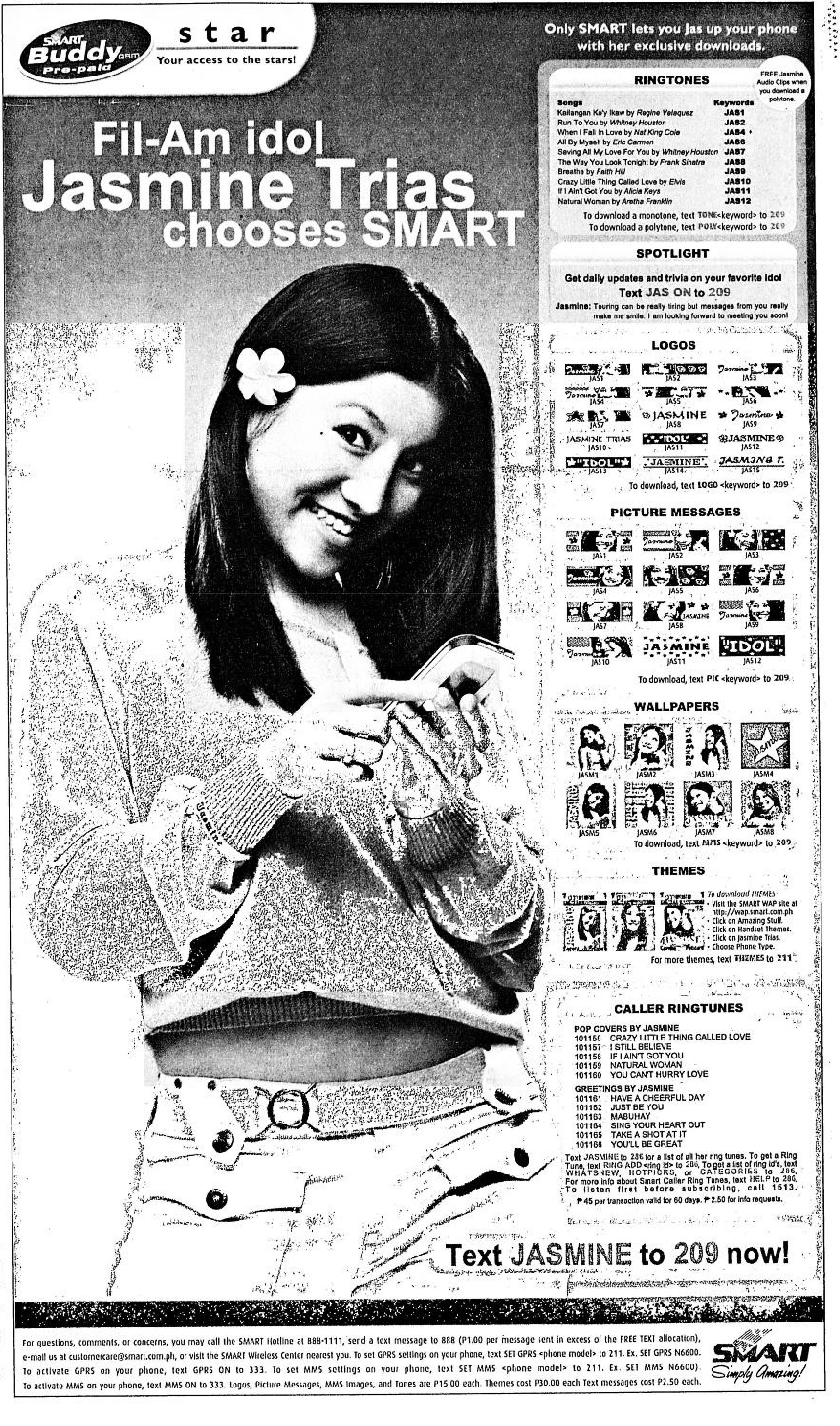
Poe lost to Ms Macapagal in the May 10 presidential election.

The wedding united a daughter of Datu Ebrahim Paglas III, former mayor of Datu Paglas town in Maguindanao, and Vice Mayor Madzhar Loong of Parang, Sulu. The wedding was held at the Waterfront Hotel here.

Paglas said he was hoping FPJ would show up in the spirit of reconciliation, but was told the actor could not make it.

Poe and Legarda had filed a protest against the proclamation of Ms Macapagal and her running mate, Noli de Castro, as winners in the presidential and vice presidential race. The case is pending before the Senate Electoral Tribunal. *Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

"DA KING" campaigning last May



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The Way You Look Tonight by *Frank Sinatra*	JAS8
Breathe by *Faith Hill*	JAS9
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SM City Fairview Cinema 9
SM City Davao Cinema 6
SM City Cebu Cinema 1
SM City Tutuban Cinema 4
SM City Pampanga Cinema 2

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SM City North Edsa Cinema 1
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SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 2
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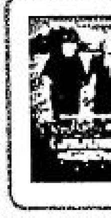
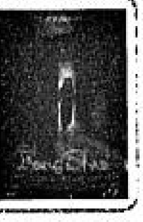
SM City Bacoor Cinema 4
SM City Fairview Cinema 5
SM City Cebu Cinema 4
SM City Lucena Cinema 1
SM City Dasmariñas Cinema 4
SM City Iloilo Cinema 3
SM City Baguio Cinema 3
SM City Marilao Cinema 4



FAHRENHEIT 9/11 MTRCB Rating: PG 13

SM City Manila Cinema 11
SM City North Edsa Cinema 5
SM Megamall Cinema 2

MTRCB Rating: PG13 FENG SHUI



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SM City Fairview Cinema 6
SM City Pampanga Cinema 6
SM Tutuban Cinema 3
SM Iloilo Cinema 5
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 1
SM City Southmall Cinema 7
SM Bacoor Cinema 6
SM Baguio Cinema 2
SM City Manila Cinema 9
SM City North Edsa Cinema 3
SM Megamall Cinema 4
SM Bicutan Cinema 2

RAISING HELEN MTRCB Rating: GP

SM City Manila Cinema 2
SM North Edsa Cinema 2
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 7
SM Southmall Cinema 4
SM City Fairview Cinema 8
SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 1
SM Megamall Cinema 9
SM Bacoor Cinema 7

MTRCB Rating: R13 RESIDENT EVIL

SM City Supercenter Sucat Cinema 3
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SM City Tutuban Cinema 1
SM City Davao Cinema 1
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 3
SM City Southmall Cinema 3
SM Bacoor Cinema 3
SM City Manila Cinema 3 & 4
SM City North Edsa Cinema 6
SM Megamall Cinema 10

SECRET WINDOW MTRCB Rating: R13

SM City Manila Cinema 6
SM City North Edsa Cinema 6
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 9
SM City Southmall Cinema 1
SM City Tutuban Cinema 2
SM Sucat Cinema 2
SM Megamall Cinema 5
SM City Fairview Cinema 4

MTRCB Rating: GP THE TERMINAL

SM City Fairview Cinema 12
SM City Davao Cinema 5
SM City Lucena Cinema 3
SM City Marilao Cinema 2
SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 4
SM City Southmall Cinema 5
SM Bacoor Cinema 8
SM City Manila Cinema 10
SM City North Edsa Cinema 4
SM Megamall Cinema 8

MTRCB Rating: PG 13 13 GOING ON 30

SM City Baguio Cinema 1
SM City Lucena Cinema 2
SM City Davao Cinema 4
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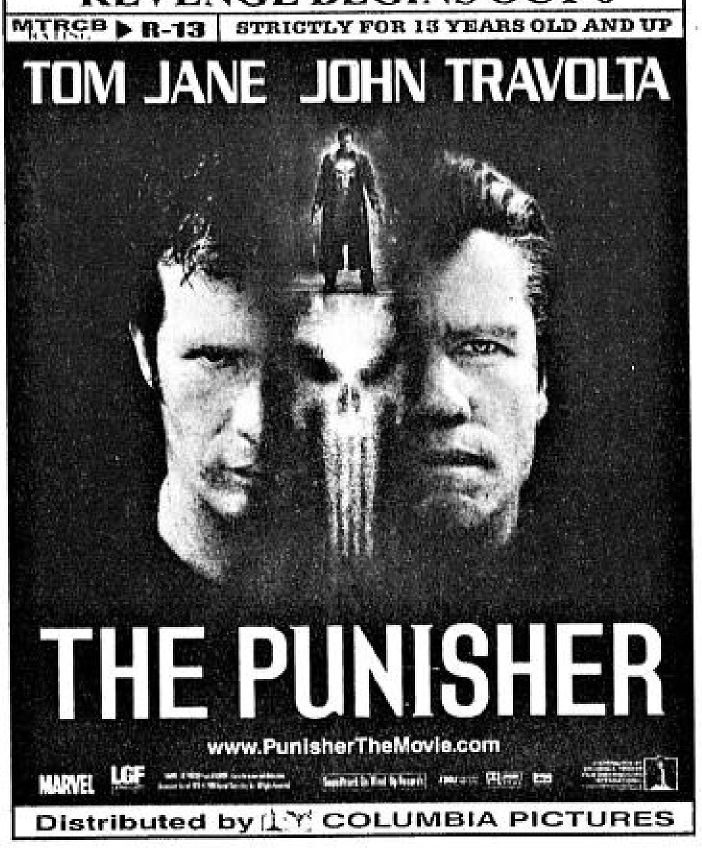

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4 GOLD (DTS) THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
5 GOLD (DOLBY) RESIDENT EVIL
6 GOLD (SDDS) RAISING HELEN
7 GOLD (DOLBY) SECRET WINDOW
8 (DOLBY) DODGEBALL
9 (DOLBY) THE TERMINAL
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3 (DTS EX) DODGEBALL
4 13 GOING ON 30

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2 FENG SHUI
3 (DOLBY) 13 GOING ON 30
4 (DTS) DODGEBALL

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CHAD and JEREMY making hits in the '60s

Chad and Jeremy bring back their hits to Manila

THE BRITISH folk-rock duo Chad and Jeremy was always on hit lists during their reign in the '50s and '60s.

From "Yesterday's Gone" to "Distant Shores," the music of Chad Stuart and Jeremy Clyde was always in the US Top 30 charts from 1954 to 1966.

Chad and Jeremy brought a romantic flavor to their music, described as the "Oxford Sound." They harmonized, sang softly, and used acoustic guitars to leave their fans swooning. They were legends in their own time, and their music mesmerized Filipinos, too.

Although they were consistently on the Philippine hit parade, Chad and Jeremy have never performed live in Manila. But they're finally coming.

Chad and Jeremy are performing at the Hard Rock Café in Glorietta on Oct. 15 and at the Aliw Theater on Oct. 16.

The 90-minute Chad and Jeremy concert will feature 20 of their songs. Steve O'Neal, who's bringing the durable British tandem, says the list is "a work in progress" and could still be revised.

The biggest hits are on top of the list: "Yesterday's Gone," "Willow Weep for Me," "Before and After," "Distant Shores," and "A Summer Song." O'Neal says he has asked them to include "What Do You Want With Me" and "The Way You Look Tonight."

Chad and Jeremy will also sing the Beatles' "I'll Be Back." And Chad just might sing John Lennon's "Imagine" in a duet with daughter Sue.

The other songs in their repertoire include "September in the Rain," "Homeward Bound," and "I'm in Love Again."

Chad and Jeremy took seven singles to the US Billboard Top 30. "Yesterday's Gone" was No. 21, "A Summer Song" was No. 7, "Willow Weep Over Me" No. 15, "If I Loved You" No. 23, "Before and After" No. 17, "I Don't Wanna Lose You Baby" No. 3, and "Distant Shores" No. 30.

Today, Chad and Jeremy are back touring, doing what they do best. They've broken into the new millennium with their voices as silky smooth as ever.

In a 1984 interview, Chad recalled their own era: "You had no instruction books, you had no way of knowing what was coming or how to meet the next chal-

CHAD/ A38

Tom Hanks, consummate actor

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WHEN **Tom Hanks** and **Steven Spielberg** collaborate on a film, it usually turns out to be a joint triumph for both of them. However, their latest movie, "The Terminal," is a greater success for Hanks than it is for his director.

To be sure, Spielberg comes up with a number of effective touches that show him in top form in a number of sequences. But his storytelling soon becomes problematic, particularly when it awkwardly tries to explain how Hanks' character is kept inside the terminal for more than nine months.

Spielberg's conceit is to have Hanks tick off the heartless man **Stanley Tucci** who oversees the operations of New York's John F. Kennedy airport. After a while, however, the tension between them feels forced, so the film's dynamic progression to its denouement is found wanting.

Still, the film succeeds in vivifying some significant themes, like the innate worth of "ordinary" people, the US being a nation of immigrants, how an individual can triumph over a heartless system, and the terminal being the microcosm of society and its woes.

When it comes to Tom Hanks' performance, there's much less equivocation. His characterization of a citizen of a revolution-torn Eastern European country is impeccably rendered.

The effectivity and empathetic value of Hanks' portrayal goes beyond putting on a thick accent and wearing ill-fitting clothes. The consummate actor is able to vivify the goodness and great heart of his character, and thus makes us care deeply about what happens to him during his "benign imprisonment" in the airport terminal.

Hanks is made to engage in a number of unique activities in the terminal, but none of them is better than his returning luggage carts to a way station for 25 cents a piece. This small financial bonanza enables him to survive in the terminal, but is soon cut off by his arch nemesis.

The only element that compromises the effectivity of Hanks' portrayal is the reason why he's flown to New York in the first place: It turns out that he's on a selfless mission that's too true-blue to be believed.

Despite this anticlimactic lapse, however, the excellence of Hanks' performance suggests that he could be in the running for another acting ward at the Oscars next year.

"TERMINAL" CASE. Hanks could be in the running for another Oscar.

'Jesus is My Music'

KNOX United Methodist Church celebrates its 106th founding anniversary with a homecoming concert, "Jesus is My Music," at 7 p.m. on Oct. 17 at the Philamlife Theater. Performers include **Angie Bacho-Manalili**, The Spiritual Image, Knox Choir, Knox Male Voices, Bethel-Knox Chorale and **Nanette Inventor**. Call 734-9851.

'Lakad Mo' walkathon

KNOWLEDGE Channel Foundation's fund-raising event "Lakad Mo, Pangarap Ko," will be held on Oct. 10, starting at the People Power Monument at Edsa and ending up at the Ultra, where "Asap Mania" and "Asap Fanatics" will be telecast live.

Participants include ABS-CBN celebrities like **Heart Evangelista, Edu Manzano** and **Aga Muhlach**, Lopez Group employees, public school students and teachers, and the general public. Everyone is invited to join the walk at P200 per ticket.

Knowledge Channel's programs are curriculum-based and intended to supplement public elementary and high school education. The goal is to equip all 40,000 public schools nationwide with quality educational materials.

MTV Style Awards

CATCH the glamour and excitement of the MTV Style Awards when the coverage airs on MTV Philippines at 3 p.m. on Oct. 16. The MTV Style Awards Red Carpet Special will be telecast at 7 p.m. on Oct. 11.

The "disco-luxe"-themed event toasted the country's purveyors of standout style in the worlds of fashion, music, TV, business, sports and politics.

Musical performers included Radioactive Sago Project, Bamboo, The Makiling Ensemble, Orange and Lemons, Artstrong, **Thea Perez, Jay-R** and Noisy Neighbors.

'Florante at Laura'

FRANCISCO Balagtas' "Florante at Laura" will be staged as a *komedya*, by Gantimpala Theater Foundation on Oct. 15, 16 and 17 at St. Cecilia's Hall, St. Scholastica's College; Oct. 22, 23 and 24 at AFP Theater; and Nov. 5 and 6 at RFC Cinema Theater, Las Piñas City. Actors include **Adriana Agcaoili, Wowie de Guzman** and **Bodgie Pascua**. Call 899-5745.

Pet blessing

OUR Lady of Remedies Parish in Malate, in cooperation with Old Manila Classics and Dunkin' Donuts, commemorates St. Francis of Assisi Day today.

The day's schedule includes a 7 a.m. opening of booths selling environmental and natural health products in the churchyard, and the Ecological Mass at noon, featuring a parade of the animals and blessing of the pets. The public is invited to participate by bringing their pets. Call **Bonjin** at 523-3746 or 41.

Now on its seventh year, the St. Francis observance is a celebration of life that pays tribute to the saint and his deep love and respect for all living things.

Issues involving ecology, environment, animal welfare, health and organic alternatives are focused on, and community fellowship is affirmed.

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ANGELA CALINA - CHIKAHAY 'TA!
(ABS-CBN TV3 Cebu)

Outstanding Variety Show - TV PROVINCIAL
SABADO NA GYUD - CEBU'S PARTY TV
(ABS-CBN TV3 Cebu)

Outstanding Public Affairs Program - TV PROVINCIAL
MindaNOW (ABS-CBN TV4 Davao)

Outstanding News Program - TV PROVINCIAL
TV PATROL CENTRAL VISAYAS (ABS-CBN TV3 Cebu)

Outstanding Newscaster - TV PROVINCIAL
DANTE LUZON - TV PATROL DUMAGUETE
(ABS-CBN TV12 Dumaguete)

ABS-CBN Regional Network Group
Sabay Tayo, Pilipinas

'Kaguluhan' in Cavite

THE BACK in Black Productions, in cooperation with Cavite Coliseum, will stage a slamming rock concert on Oct. 15, at 8 p.m.

Alternative rock bands Greyhoundz and A.D.A. (Aggressive Dog Attack) will lead the non-stop rock party, "Kaguluhan Music Festival," to be hosted by Boy Piodos. It will also feature Starscream, Whorelocke, Stagnant and Sin.

The concert is sponsored by Blazing 105.5 FM and The Bomb 99.9 FM and powered by Muzak Pro Audio System. Tickets are P200 only. The Cavite Coliseum is in Habay II, Bacoor, right after SM City Bacoor going to Imus.

For tickets, call Kid, 0917-8353475; Dennis, 0917-8520724; or Chit, 632-873-5989.

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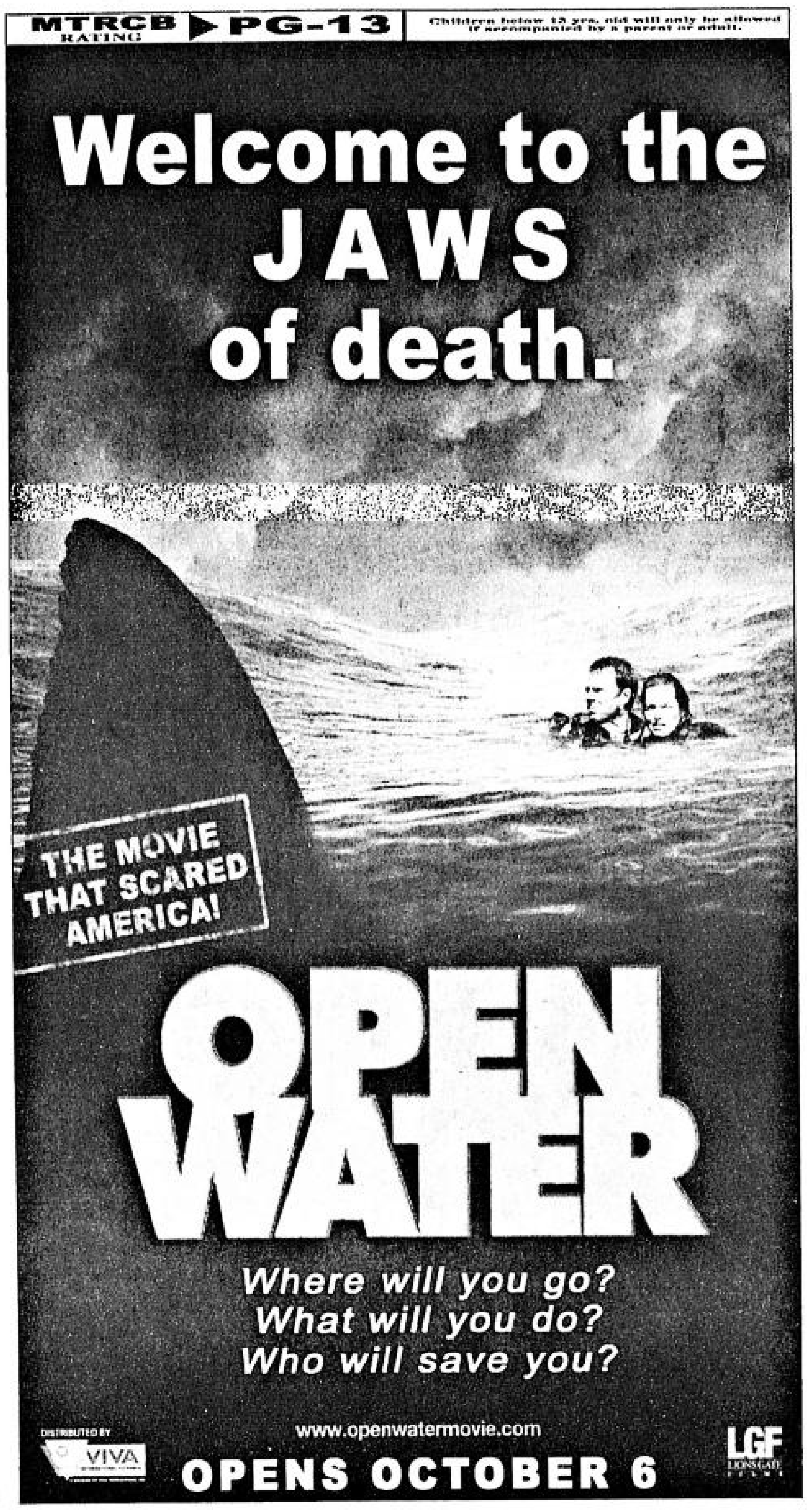
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	KRISANTA IBA KA
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	TAKAW TINGIN
B	CLOSED
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA 1, 2, 3 & 4	RAISING HELEN/FAHRENHEIT 9/11/SECRET WINDOW/RESIDENT EVIL 2
PREMIERE THEATRE	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	SAVED
CINEMA-2	KRISANTA, IBA KA
CINEMA-3	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	HEAVEN'S POND
CINEMA-6	ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
CINEMA-7	KAPAG PALAY NAGING BIGAS (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-8	DON'T TEMPT ME (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	RAISING HELEN
CINEMA-12	SECRET WINDOW
CINEMA-14	BOURNE SUPREMACY
CINEMA-15	FENG SHUI
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
(LAS PINAS)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-1	FENG SHUI
CINEMA-2	DODGEBALL
CINEMA-4	[illegible]
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.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1 BOURNE SUPREMACY 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:20 PG-13
2 RESIDENT EVIL 2 10:30, 1:00, 3:20 5:45, 8:10, 11:00 R-13
3 SECRET WINDOW 10:45, 1:00, 3:15 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 R-13
4 RAISING HELEN 12:10, 2:55, 5:40 8:25, 11:10 GP

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NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 RAISING HELEN 11:50, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15 GP
CINEMA 2 RESIDENT EVIL 2 11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 R13
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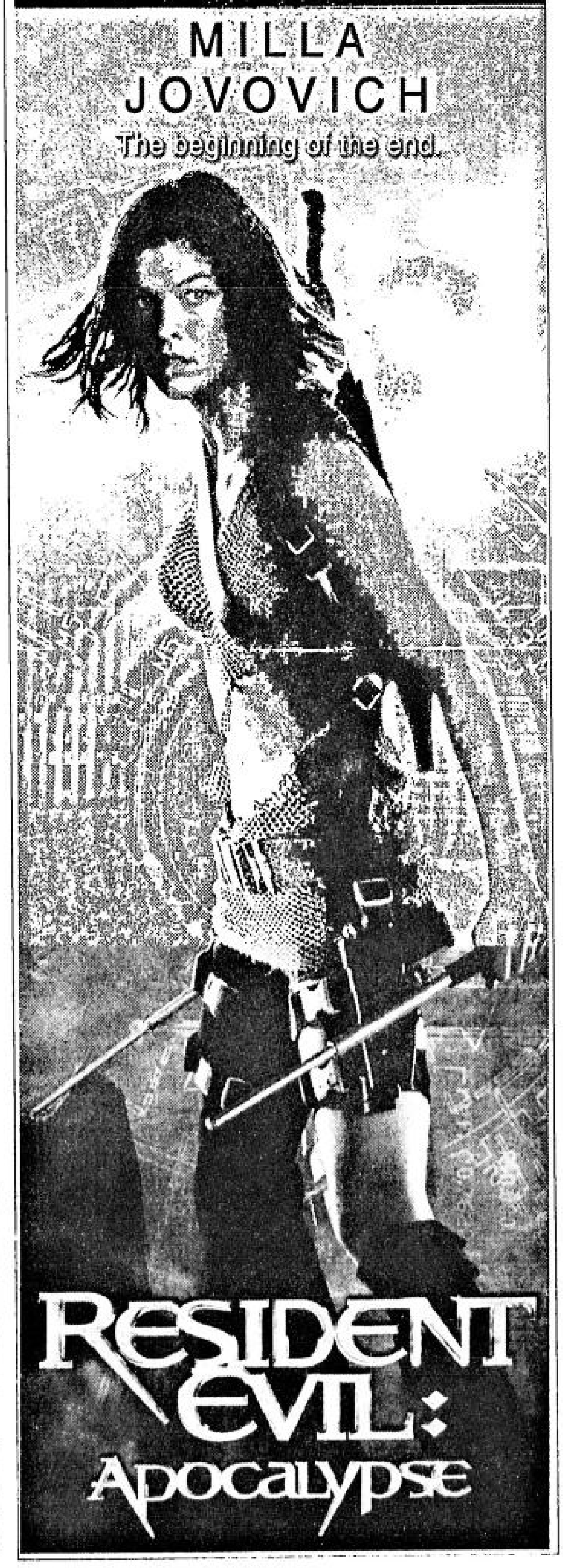

SNEAK PREVIEWS ON OCT. 4 & 5
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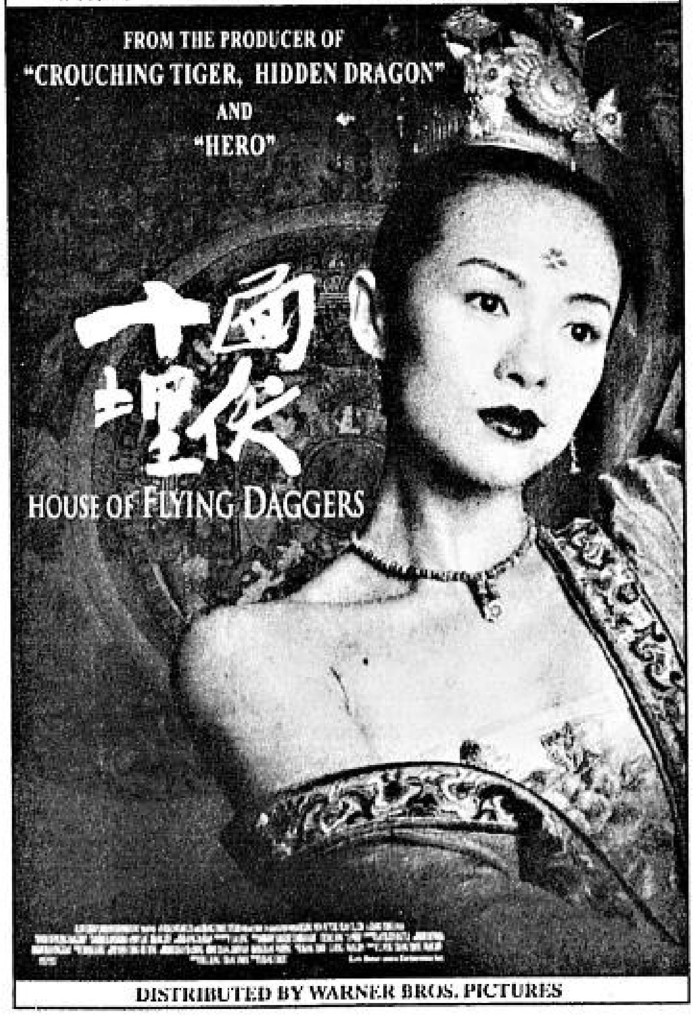
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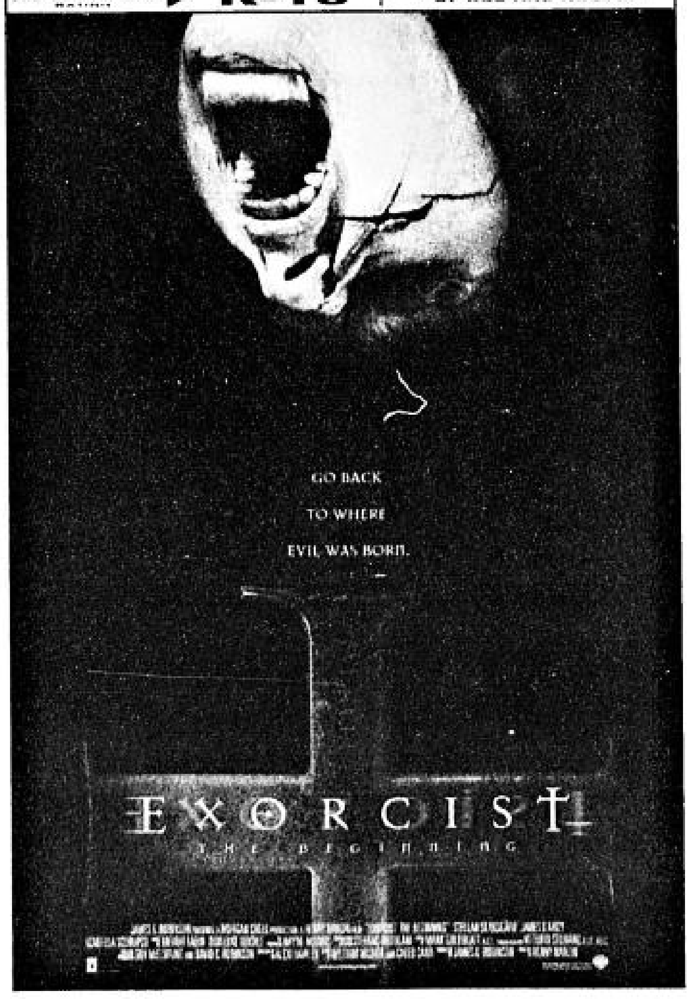
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SECRET WINDOW R13 1:10,3:20,5:30,7:40,10:00	RAISING HELEN GP 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30	FAHRENHEIT 9/11 PG13 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:05
RESIDENT EVIL 2 R13 12:35,2:55,5:15,7:35,10:10	FENG SHUI PG13 12:35,2:55,5:15,7:35,9:55	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY PG13 12:40,3:05,5:30,7:55,10:20

MATINEE P81, MON. TO FRI., SCREENINGS BEFORE 5:00 PM., FREE SEATING.

SHANG CINEPLEX
① RAISING HELEN FS: 10:40 AM, 1:15 PM, 3:50 PM, 6:25 PM LMF: 9:00 PM (GP)
② FAHRENHEIT 9/11 FS: 10:30 AM, 1:05 PM, 3:40 PM, 6:15 PM LMF: 9:00 PM (PG-13)
③ SECRET WINDOW FS: 11:55 AM, 2:10 PM, 4:25 PM, 6:40 PM LMF: 9:00 PM (R-13)
④ RESIDENT EVIL 2 FS: 11:40 AM, 1:55 PM, 4:10 PM, 6:25 PM LMF: 8:40 PM (R-13)
PREMIERE THEATRE BOURNE SUPREMACY FS 11:10PM, 1:20PM, 3:30PM, 5:40PM, 7:50PM, LMF 10PM (PG-13)
For more information please call 633-2227 / 633-7851 loc. 171
Shangri-La Plaza

Yule song writer dies at 101

By Bernadette A. Parco
Cebu City

MARIANO Arcadio Vestil wrote the Cebuano lyrics of only one song, but the feat was enough to earn him a place in Philippine music history.

"Kasadya Ning Tak-naa!" (How Joyful is This Season!), the most popular Christmas carol in Cebuano, was translated to Tagalog to become "Ang Pasko ay Sumapit."

Vestil died on Sept. 6. He was 101.

Vestil is survived by his five children—Hernani, 67; Orlinda, 62; Richard, 59; Elena, 56; and Conchita, 48. His wife Encarnacion (nee Alcordo) died after a stroke nine years ago.

No record of Vestil writing the lyrics of any other song has been found, but church choirs and carolers in the Visayas and Mindanao have been singing his "Kasadya" during Christmas time for the past 60 years or so.

Town fiesta

Hernani said his father and the late musician Vicente "Inting" Rubi, who created the melody of "Kasadya," were good friends.

In 1933, Cebuano playwrights gathered at Pili Kanipaan (now Manalili Street in Cebu City) to organize a play for the town fiesta. One of the scenes depicted a group of carolers with castanets made of bottle caps singing in front of a house. Inting Rubi, who was tasked with composing the music for the carolers, asked Mariano to write the lyrics. Thus, the popular Visayan carol was born.

National Artist for Music Levi Celerio, using Rubi's music with permission, wrote the translation, "Ang Pasko Ay Sumapit," which in turn became the country's most popular Tagalog Christmas carol.

Vestil's sister Anna Vestil-Cellona was instrumental in bringing the song to Celerio. Sometime in the 1950s or 1960s, Cellona and her daughter, Priscilla, an aspiring movie actress, attended a Christmas party in Manila. "Priscilla sang "Kasadya" at the party," Vestil's son, Hernani, related. "Levi heard the song, liked it and made a Tagalog version."

The family later received from Celerio a recording of the Tagalog version with a label that said, "With permission of Mariano Vestil."

No royalties

Like Rubi, who did not receive any royalty for the song until he died in November 1980, Vestil did not receive a single centavo for writing its lyrics.

YULE/A39

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GALLERIA 632-9115 to 16

CINEMA 1 THX	RESIDENT EVIL 2	12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
2	RAISING HELEN	11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
3	FENG SHUI	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
4	SECRET WINDOW	10:45, 1:00, 3:16, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
5	RESIDENT EVIL 2	10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
6	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
7	THE TERMINAL	11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
8	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
9	FAHRENHEIT 9/11	11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00
10	THE NOTEBOOK	11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

Regular Price: P150 THX / P100/70 for two levels cinemas / P100 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1	RESIDENT EVIL 2	10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
2	RAISING HELEN	10:10, 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:00
3	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	11:05, 1:05, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:00
4	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	10:20, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
5	FENG SHUI	10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
6	SECRET WINDOW	10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:00
7	FAHRENHEIT 9/11	10:10, 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:00

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

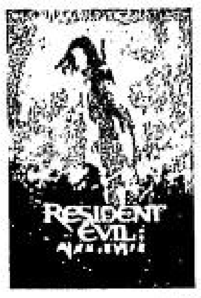
1	RAISING HELEN	12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00
2	EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	11:20,1:40, 6:30, 9:00
3	KRISANTA...IBA KA	10.50, 12.50, 2.50, 4.50, 6.50, 9.00
4	THE TERMINAL	11.00, 1:30, 4.00, 6:30, 9:00
5	RESIDENT EVIL 2	11:30, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10
6	SECRET WINDOW	10.50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:00
7	THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8.40, 10:30
8	FENG SHUI	11:20, 1:40, 4.00, 6:20, 8.40, 10:30

NOVALICHES 935-3229 / 31	Citisquare MALABON 288-0985/2575	CAINTA 240-4661
1 RESIDENT EVIL 2	1 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	2 FENG SHUI	2 FENG SHUI
3 FENG SHUI	3 HAUNTED SPIRITS 2	3 RAISING HELEN
4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	4 KRISANTA...IBA KA	4 KRISANTA...IBA KA
5 RESIDENT EVIL 2		
6 SECRET WINDOW		
7 RAISING HELEN		
8 SAVED		

LIPA 757-3664 / 312-5870	STA. ROSA (049)837-0907
1 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
2 SAVED	2 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
3 JANDARA	3 TAKAW TINGIN
4 FENG SHUI	4 MINDHUNTERS
5 MINDHUNTERS	5 FENG SHUI

DASMARIÑAS 852-2125 / 416-4332	ANGELES	STARMILLS San Fernando, Pampanga 875-1927 / 961-5270
1 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	1 DODGEBALL	1 DODGEBALL
2 TAKAW TINGIN	2 13 GOING ON 30	2 TAKAW TINGIN
3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	3 FENG SHUI	3 FENG SHUI
4 SAVED	4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	4 THE NOTEBOOK
5 FENG SHUI		5 13 GOING ON 30
		6 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

IMUS 471-8188 / 875-5858	BACOLOD 441-0458/59	ILOILO 336-8070/78
1 HEAVEN'S POND	1 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	1 EXORCIST THE BEGINNING
2 RAISING HELEN	2 TAG-INIT	2 FENG SHUI
3 KRISANTA...IBA KA	3 THE TERMINAL	3 THE TERMINAL
4 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	4 DODGEBALL	4 THE TOOL BOX MURDERS
5 FENG SHUI	5 JANDARA	5 TAG-INIT
6 SAVED	6 MINDHUNTERS	6 THE NOTEBOOK


RESIDENT EVIL

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ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4		GB3 GREENBELT 3	ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE	1 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	1 RAISING HELEN	5 THE TERMINAL	GUARANTEED SEATS 1 RAISING HELEN 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	1 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE
2 RAISING HELEN	2 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE	2 FENG SHUI	6 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	GUARANTEED SEATS 2 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05, 11:15	2 13 GOING ON 30
3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	3 RAISING HELEN	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 RESIDENT EVIL... 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 11:30	7 SECRET WINDOW	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 FAHRENHEIT 9/11 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30	3 DODGEBALL
4 FENG SHUI	4 FENG SHUI	4 FAHRENHEIT 9/11		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 SECRET WINDOW 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30	4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
5 SECRET WINDOW		GB1 GREENBELT 1		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10, 11:30	5 FENG SHUI
		1 SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL For inquiries, call 526-1448			
		2 RAISING HELEN 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40			

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
8th CULINARY KITCHEN & FOOD EXPO 2004 October 1 to 3, 2004	GARY VALENCIANO CONCERT October 3	METRO CHRISTMAS PROMO LAUNCH October 3, 2004

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GREENBELT 2	GREENBELT 3
GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES from Thursday to Saturday (7-10pm)	LETRAS Y FIGURAS EXHIBIT October 8 to 15, Greenbelt 3 Lobby

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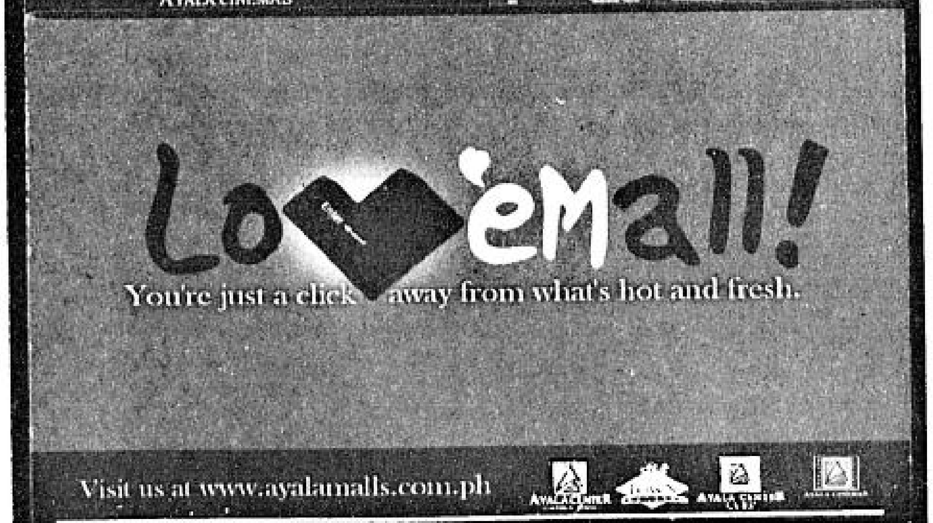
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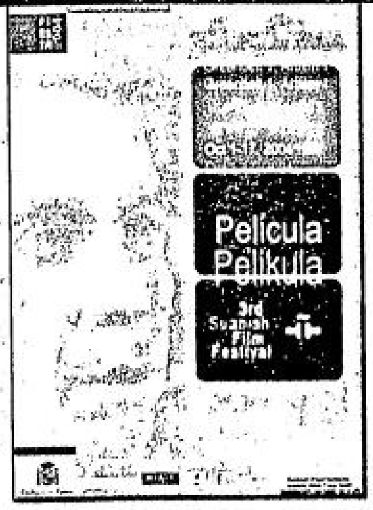
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AYALA CENTER ALABANG TOWN AYALA CENTER CEBU Love'Mall!

4 LABELS IN 1 ALBUM: A FIRST

The "Side A Anthology" album is now in music stores. Released by Warner Music Philippines, it is a double-CD containing 38 tracks of Side A's hits and other selections. Four major record labels were gathered to produce the anthology in the first-ever joint venture of its kind—Warner Music Philippines, Vicor Music Corp., Ivory Records and Star Records. The four companies are represented by (from left) Tony Ocampo, president of Ivory Records; Annabelle Regalado, managing director of Star Records; Steven Tan, president of Vicor Music Corp.; and Ricky Ilacad, managing director of Warner Music Philippines.

GWYENTH PALTROW

ANGELINA JOLIE

JUDE LAW

With more than 2,000 special effects shots

SKY CAPTAIN is spectacular

LAST WEEKEND, **Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow** opened at number one in the US boxoffice.

The Paramount title opened like a summer film in an ultrawide 3,170 locations and averaged $4,915 per site.

Written and directed by rookie Kerry Conran, **Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow** was produced for $80M with *Paramount* investing roughly $40M and taking distribution rights in English-speaking territories. Film Critics were very supportive of this innovative film.

Since movies have become so cliché, it's refreshing when something new like "**Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow**" comes along. This movie mirrors the film style of yesterday and the special effects technology of today. The imaginative story idea is sparked by Conran's love of comic books like Buck Rogers, Superman, and Flash Gordon .

The film's presentation is quite unique. Using more than 2000 effects shots along with live-action actors all filmed against a super blue screen. However, don't think this movie looks like it's made on a computer. Conran employs the latest technology to draw viewers into a very beautiful and lush world brought to life by actors **Jude Law, Gwyenth Paltrow** and **Angelina Jolie**.

It took Conran more than three years and a team of more than 200 special effects artists to bring the film to the screen. It's hard to imagine the scope involved in making this film, but realizing that the movie has 10 producers puts things somewhat into perspective.

"**Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow**" boasts an amazing never-seen-before look. At times, it's so beautiful it appears like a painting, and the lighting on each character and aspect of the film seems revolutionary. Combining action, adventure, humor, romance and visions of the future and past, this exceptional film offers something for everyone. •

ADVT.

Love is all you need to win at Wimbledon

From **Working Title**, the company that gave you **Notting Hill, Love Actually** and **Bridget Jones's Diary** comes another British romantic comedy to melt your hearts this October

For a great romantic comedy to work, you have to have four basic film elements work for you. One is that you need a story that encompasses the couple and eventually brings them together. The second is that you need one of your primary characters to be unlucky in love or has given up on love. The third is that you need the audience to like the characters, get involved with them and eventually cheer for them to get together. The fourth and sometimes most crucial is that you need good music to set the scene and to enhance the yearning between the two lovers. Wimbledon was very very close to getting all these elements right.

Saying good-bye to a sport you love is almost as difficult as finding the right soul mate to spend your life with. In the romantic comedy "**Wimbledon**," Peter Colt faces both of these challenges. As an uninspired tennis star whose ranking has slipped from number 11 to 119, he doesn't need a bonk in the head from a tennis ball to get the picture.

After landing a wild card spot in the Wimbledon tournament, Peter (**Paul Bettany**) approaches the game with a bit of melancholy. He knows his tennis game is through.

Although Peter is somewhat in the dumps when he plays his first match, he wins. He's not sure if it's skill, a bit of luck, or the fact that he met Lizzie Bradbury (**Kirsten Dunst**), a rising young tennis star whose bewitching smile and flirtatious attitude definitely brightened his day.

Lizzie is dating # 1 tennis champ Jake (**Austin Nichols**), but she can't seem to get Peter off her mind. She's at the top of her game and determined to win Wimbledon. Until now, men have been an amusing pastime to fill in between matches, but Peter is different. Lizzie and Peter begin to see each other during games and soon can't stay away from each other. This presents another problem, since Lizzie's overbearing dad (**Sam Neil**) follows her like a shadow. He wants to ensure that his daughter's decision not to allow love to get in the way of her game is carried out.

Will these two beautiful give up everything for love ?

It's intriguing to watch the juxtaposition of these characters' conflict. Falling in love will kill Lizzie's chances of winning her tournament, but that's the only thing helping Peter win his matches. "**Wimbledon**" really comes down to deciding which match is more important? •

ADVT.

THE DUO today, as silky smooth as ever

Chad and Jeremy bring back...

From page A34

lenge. You got too sidetracked by the fans and the fan mags and the applause. I remember it as if I was frantically faking my way through life. We're blessed, really, because we can come back now and look at one another and say, I respect what you do and, more importantly, I respect myself.'"

"Chad and Jeremy Live in Manila" is sponsored by Philippine Airlines, Century Park Sheraton Hotel, Petron, The Aristocrat, Mantrade, Bykes Café, Hard Rock Café and RJ 100.

For Hard Rock Café reservations, call 893-4661 to 64. The dinner show starts at 8 p.m. and will feature an open bar and buffet.

For Aliw tickets, call 891-9999 or check out the Ticket World outlets, Tower Records, National Bookstore, Ayala Malls and Robinson's. Aliw tickets are P800, P1,500 and P2,500.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3	Dolby	RESIDENT EVIL : APOCALYPSE 12:10 pm 2:25 pm 4:40 pm 6:55 pm 9:10 pm
4	SDDS	FENG SHUI 11:35 am 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm
5	dts	BOURNE SUPREMACY 12:00 nn 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm
6	Dolby	KRISANTA IBA KA 11:55 am 2:05 pm 4:15 pm 6:25 pm 8:35 pm
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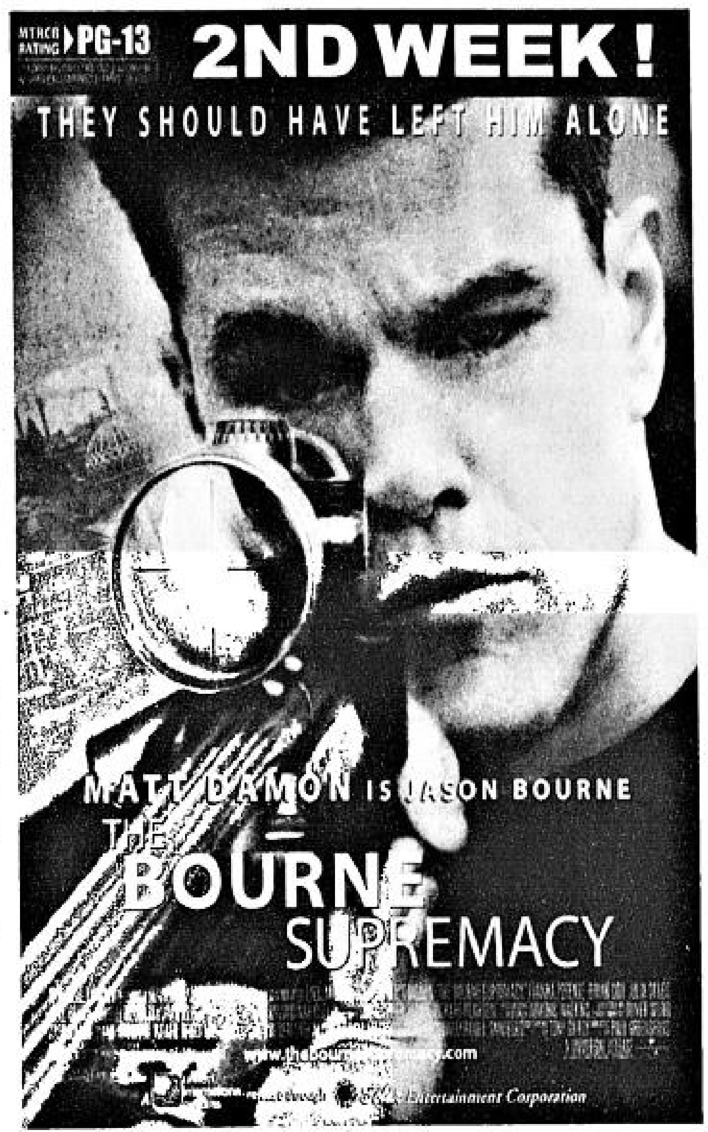
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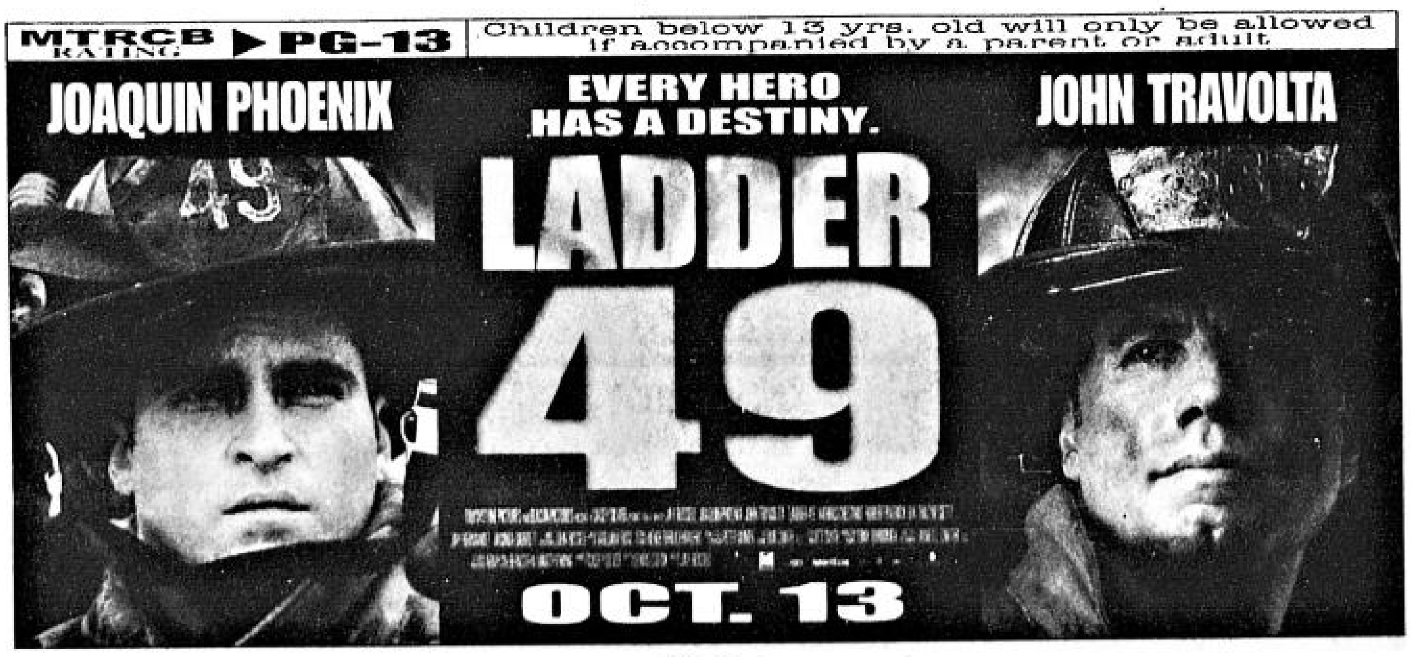
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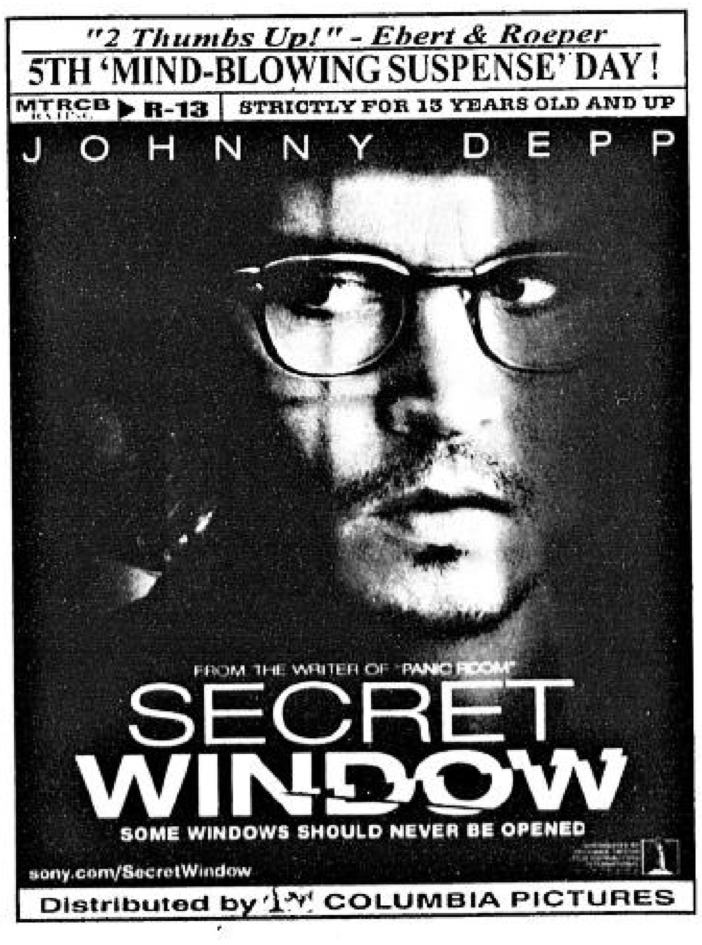
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Yule song writer…

From page A37

Hernani attributed his father's long life to his penchant for clean living.

His descendants remember Vestil as a member of the Sweet 65 Softball Team, a clerk at the Cebu City Hall during the administration of Mayor Eulogio Borces, and a disciplinarian who taught his children the value of education.

Hernani said his father spent most of his last few weeks on earth lying down on a bamboo sofa beside an old *capiz* window in their house in Barangay Punta Princesa.

"My younger brother, Richard, only found out that father was dead when he tried to wake him up for lunch," Hernani said in Cebuano. "It was a peaceful passing. It was like he was just sleeping."

Vestil was buried on Sept. 9 at the Queen City Garden, after a Mass at the Lourdes Parish in Punta Princesa.

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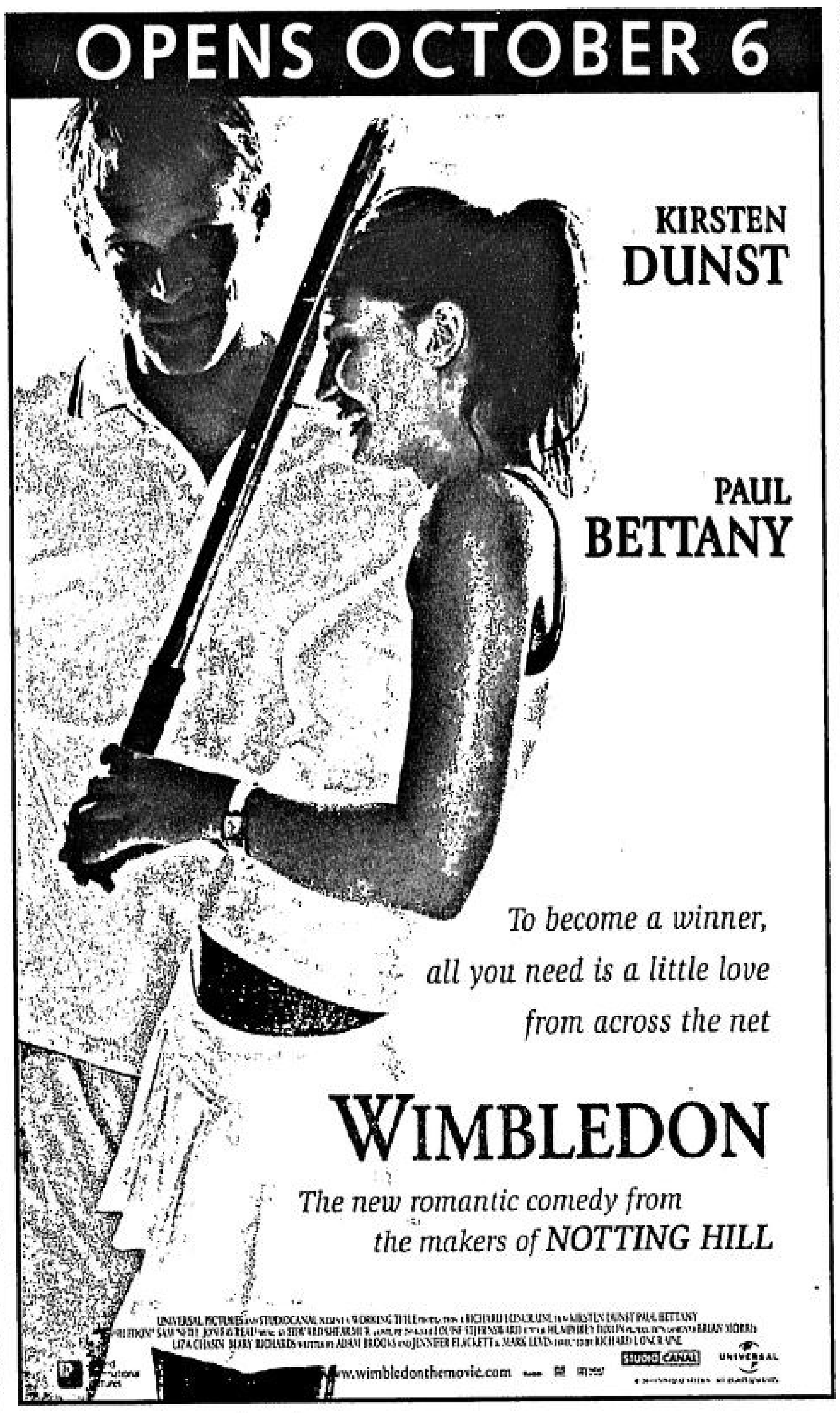
Metro Manila's No. 1 AM radio station, dzMM Radyo Patrol Sais Trenta, probes into the day's news with in-depth commentary on "Pintig Balita." Aired every Saturday from 11 p.m. to 12 midnight, "Pintig Balita" marks the return of Vic Jose, one of the original Radyo Patrol reporters during the pre-martial law days. An original Kapamilya, Jose is a seasoned radio man known for his credibility and mastery of the subjects he discusses. Late Saturday nights will never be the same again with Jose's no-holds barred news commentary on "Pintig Balita."



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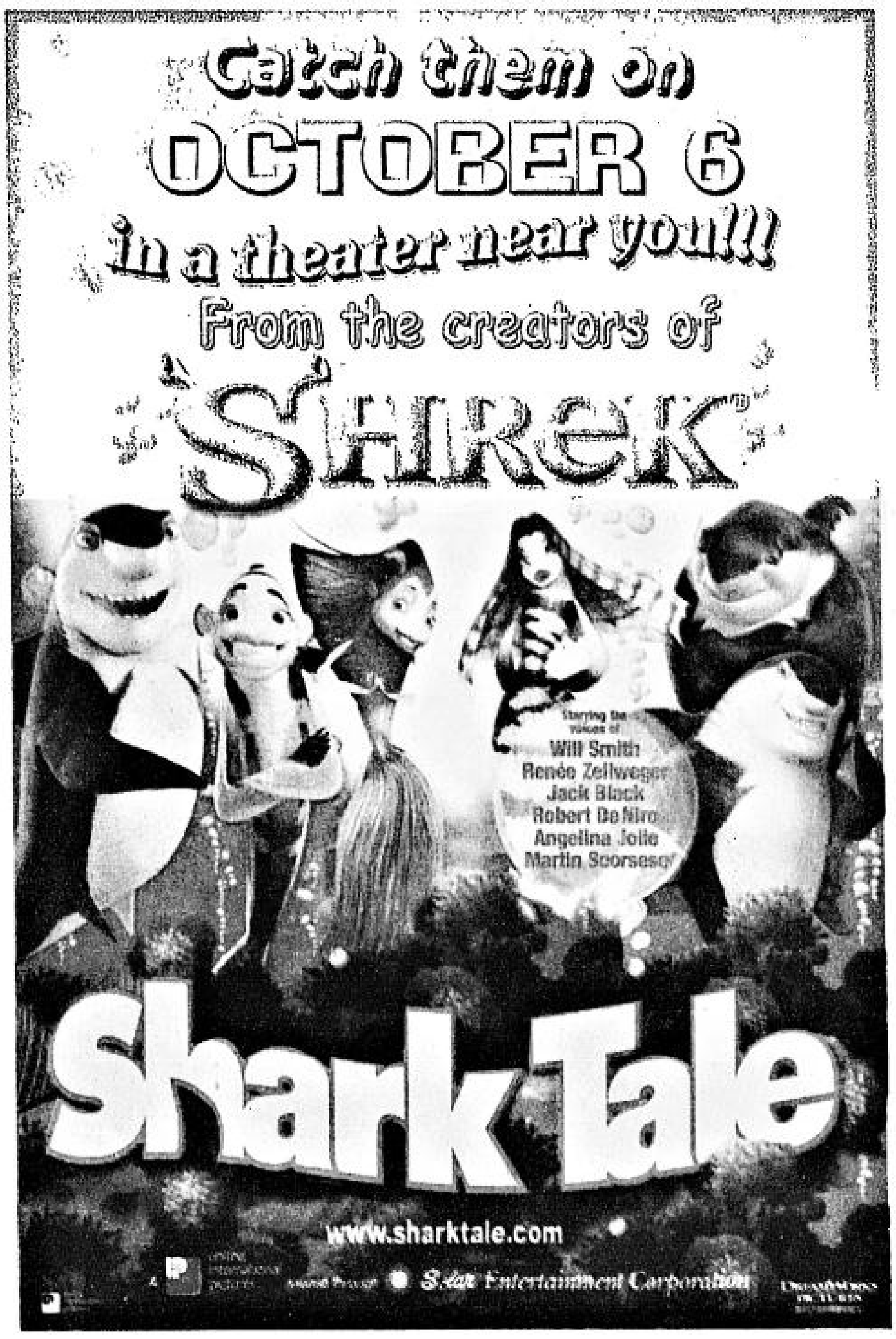

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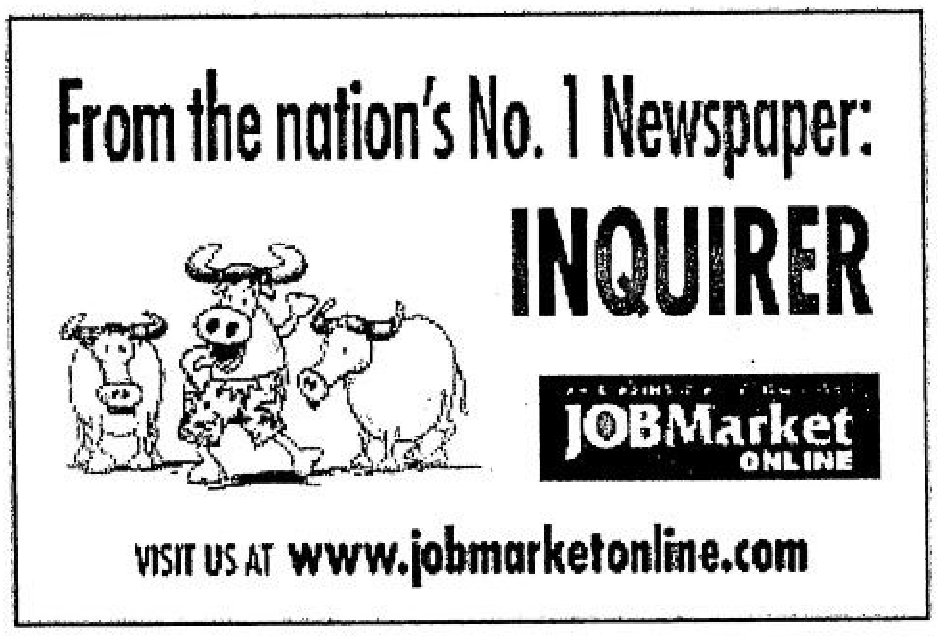

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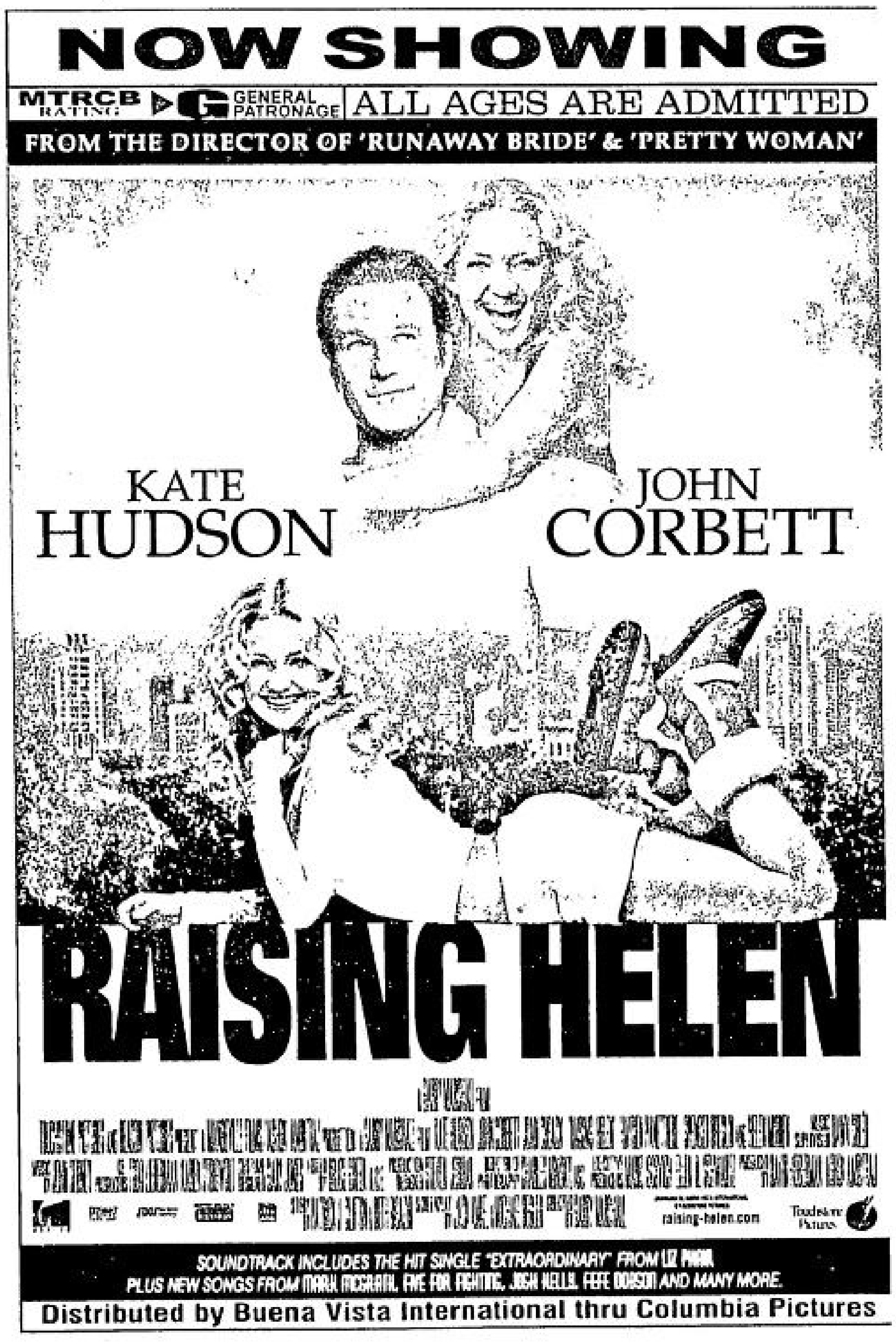

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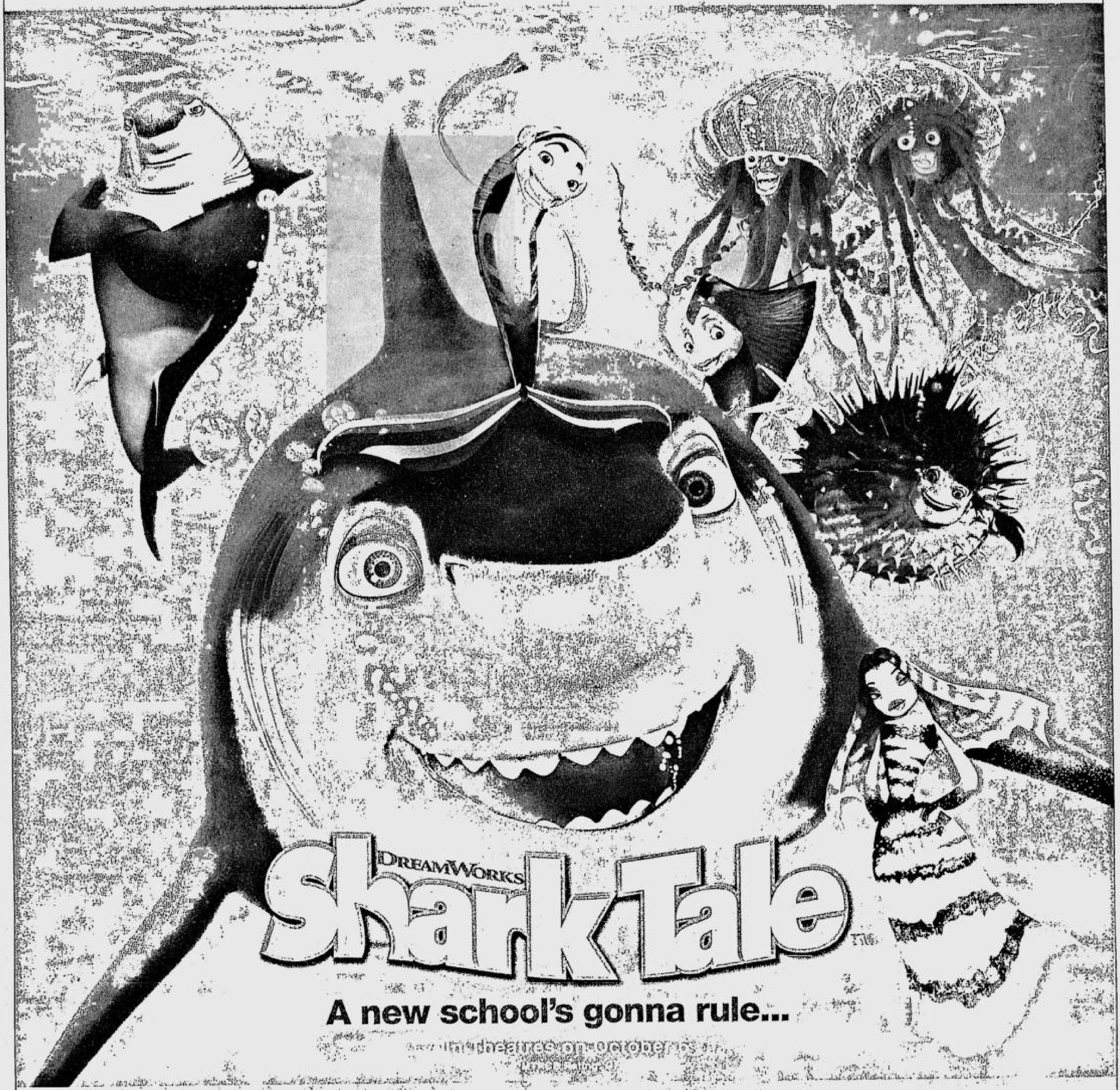
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Gold Digger	Ludacris	GOLDDIGGER
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Sweet Kind Of Life	Cheryl Lynn	SWEETLIFE

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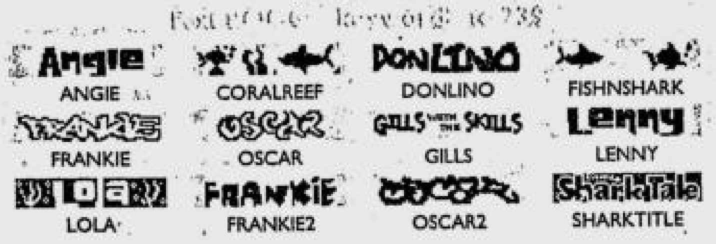

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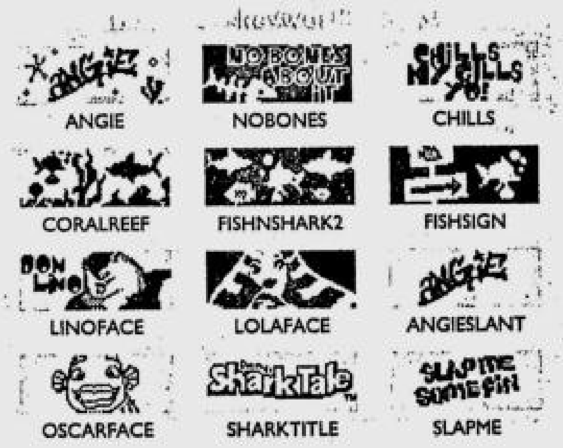

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OSCARFACE · SHARKTITLE · SLAPME

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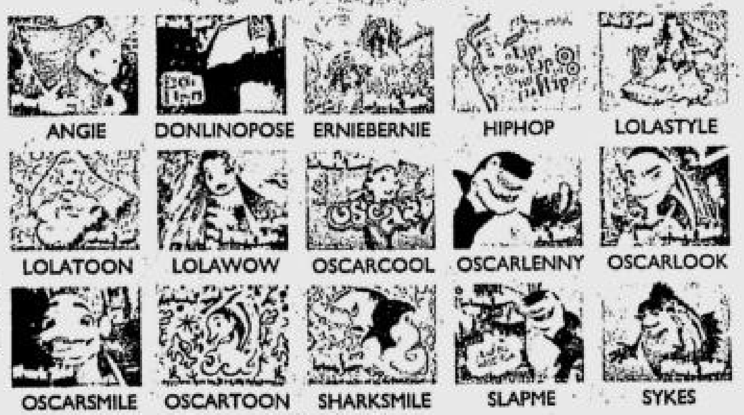

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Bong: I'll quit if people want me out

"SACRIFICE." He's ready to go even if losing the sitcom would mean giving up a big source of income, says the 37-year-old senator.

By Nini Valera

"IF THE people want me to quit show biz, I will."

This is what Sen. Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr. said after the party-list group Abakada Guro called for his expulsion from the Senate for continuing to appear on his weekly television show, "Idol Ko Si Kap," on GMA 7.

But Revilla, who turned 37 on Sept. 25, argued that his stint in show biz "is a decent source of income that helps make me clean and incorruptible."

He admitted that giving up the show would mean a big sacrifice for him.

He said he is receiving only P40,000 a month as a senator.

"Let's not pretend," he said. "Government has no money. Let's not delude ourselves into believing that government can pay for quality service. This is why graft and corruption is so rampant in our system. If we take away other options from public servants to survive, then we encourage them to steal."

He described his show, about Barangay Chair Myong of the fictitious Barangay Rancho Verde, as a tool for propagating good values.

"It's helping shape Filipino values because we (on the show) tackle issues like the garbage problem, peace and order, that are very real," Revilla told INQUIRER Entertainment on Friday. "In some segments of the show, we show how these problems could be addressed efficiently with the combined efforts of the officials and residents of the barangay."

He said "Idol Ko Si Kap" might be a comedy but "this format is not inferior to other show formats like news or opinion shows in terms of shaping Filipino values."

Revilla was referring to the suggestion of former Sen. Tito Sotto, who had advised him to give up the sitcom and switch to a more serious program format, like public service or news.

But Revilla maintained that "we need humor in these desperate times."

He said, "Comedians, in fact, have been more serious with their politics than other show biz personalities. Even Francisco Baltazar engaged in the *comedia* to drive home his point. Pugo and Tugo protested the Japanese occupation in the Philippines with their comedy. Even Charlie Chaplin influenced American political thinking with his comedy, like in his movie "The Great Dictator."

"Some politicians make comedians of themselves," he said. "But they do not amuse and are never able to interest the masses at all."

He pointed out that his appearance on the show helps him perform his job as a senator because "it brings me closer to the people and the people closer to me."

"If the people don't like seeing me on the show, they wouldn't be watching it," he said.

But TV surveys in the past few months have shown that "Idol Ko Si Kap" has consistently been one of the top-rating shows, according to Revilla.

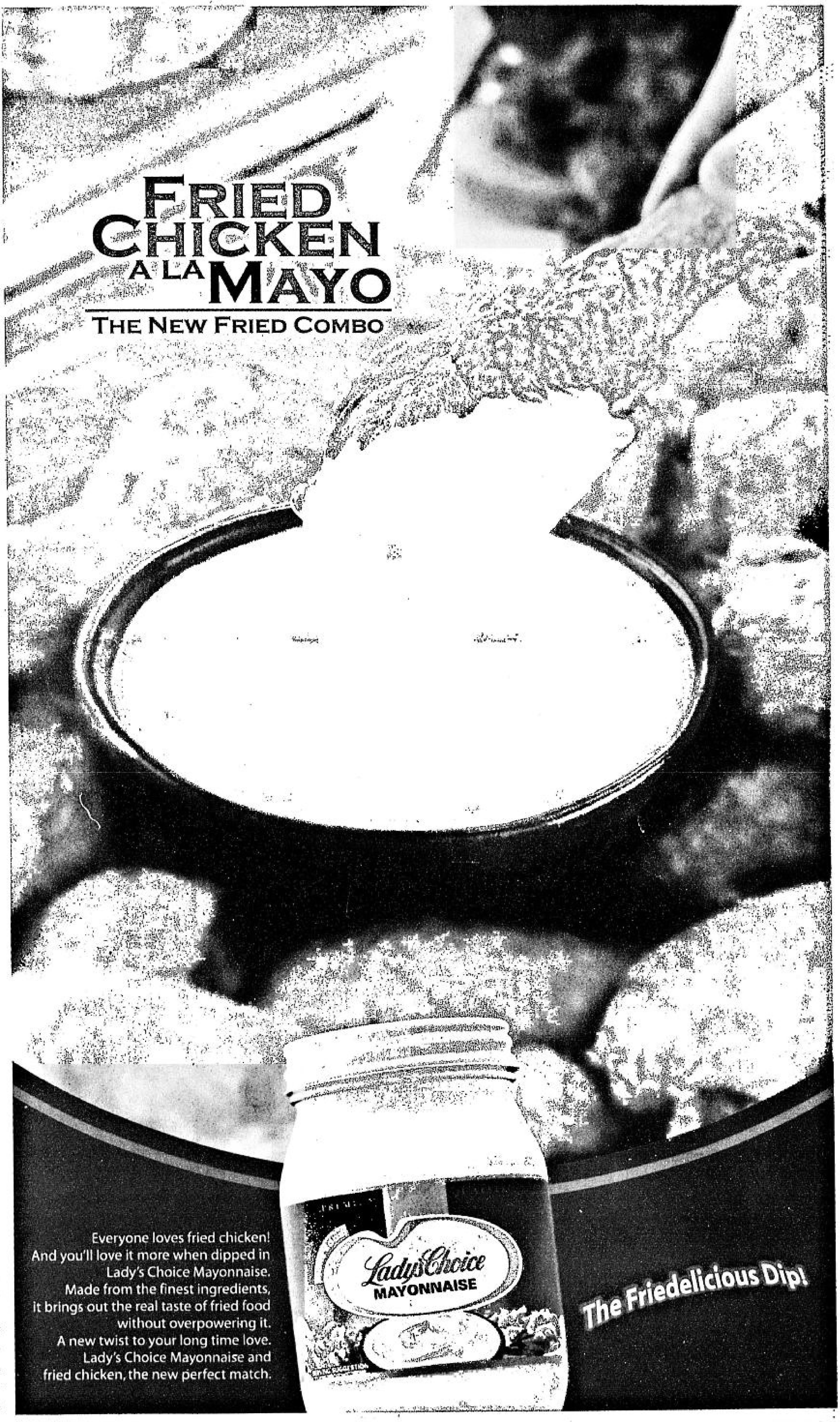
"So the people have decided that they like seeing me on the show," he said. "If they didn't like me appearing there, they wouldn't be watching the show anymore."

He said that with his sitcom, "I can be more effective in my job as a senator because I don't have to worry about supporting my family. I have several children to send to school."

Revilla has six children, all of them of school age. His eldest son, Jolo who is also in show business, is only 17.

Revilla cites his stint as chair of the former Videogram and Regulatory Board—now the

BONG/ A42



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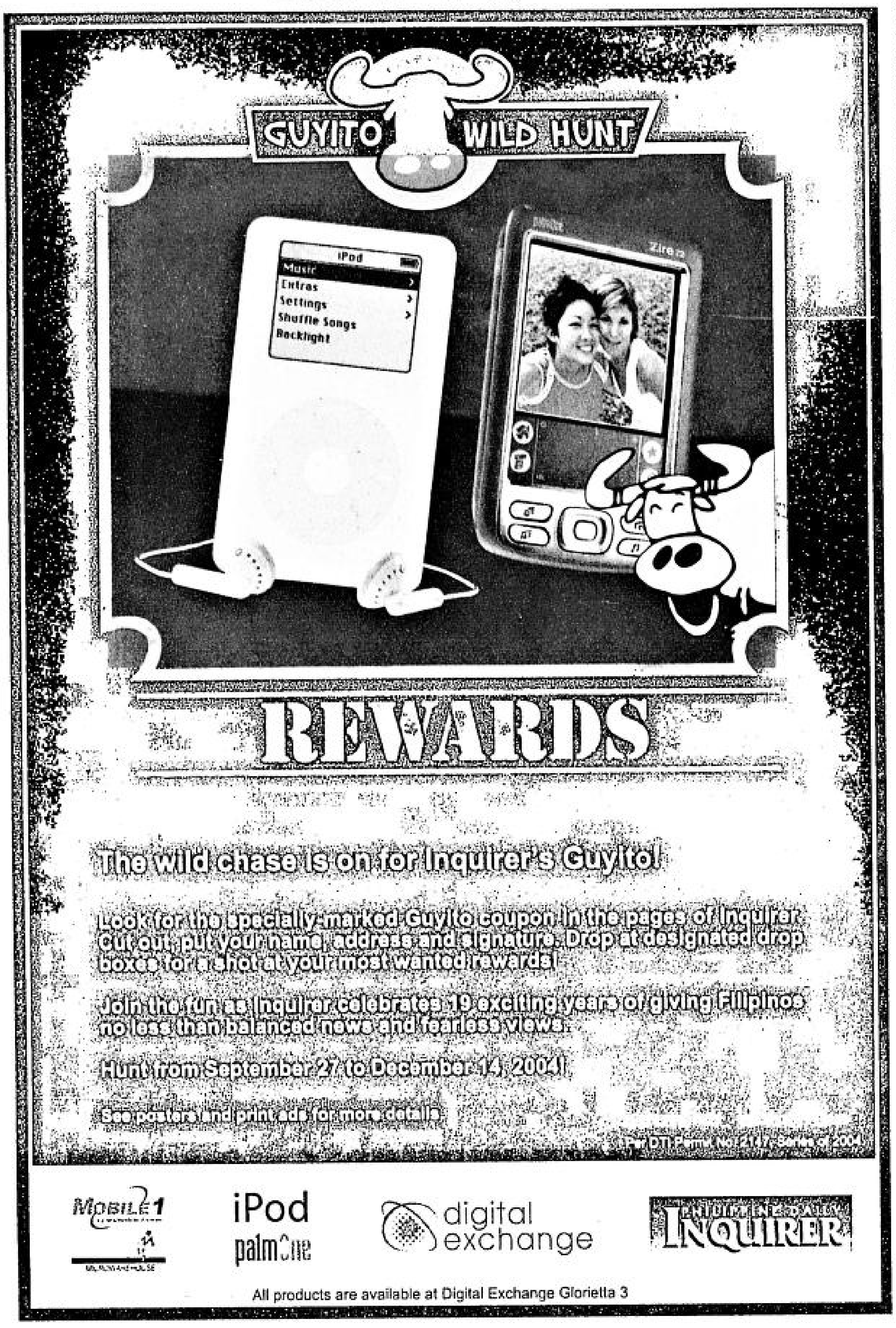

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'bond live in Manila'

SHOW TIME

THE SEXY, all-girl string quartet from Britain called bond performs at the PICC Plenary Hall on Oct. 20.

The show, called "bond live in Manila," is presented by Smart Gold and Sunlife Financial.

Composed of Eos Chater on second violin, Gay-Yee Westerhoff on cello, Haylie Ecker on first violin, and Tania Davis on viola, bond has emerged as classical music's hottest foursome, having sold more than three million albums worldwide. Wielding electric violins, viola and cello, the classically trained ladies breathe new life into classical music by fusing conventional tunes with pulsating dance beats, passionate world rhythms and eclectic arrangements.

"It works," says Eos of their music, "because we're all so different in a way. It helps that we had really strong training. It wouldn't matter if it wasn't in classical music. It's being dedicated to something all your life that gives you a good grounding."

Their new album, "Classified," from MCA Music, is a testament to their musical vision and virtuosity after their debut "Born" and their second album "Shine."

"Classified" explores various musical styles like electronica, Latin and jazz. Some tracks also incorporate African and hip-hop beats.

Bond's classical influences are stronger than ever as they play alongside the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra throughout the album.

"If I were to explain bond to someone, I'd probably call it eclectic," says Tania. "The music is quite a mix. It's a lot of different styles."

Tickets to "bond live in Manila" are P3,000, P2,000, P1,200, P800 and P600, available at Ticketworld outlets.

For ticket information and reservation, call Ticketworld at 891-9999.

"bond live in Manila" is co-presented by Rado Switzerland with Gloria Jean, bond's official residence Manila Hotel, and media partners ETC Entertainment Central, USA Ultimate in Suspense and Action, MTV, Manila Bulletin, Fudge, Joey 92.3 and RJ 100.

Bong: I'll quit if...

From page A41

Optical Media Board—as an example of how his lucrative job in show biz had helped a legitimate cause of the government.

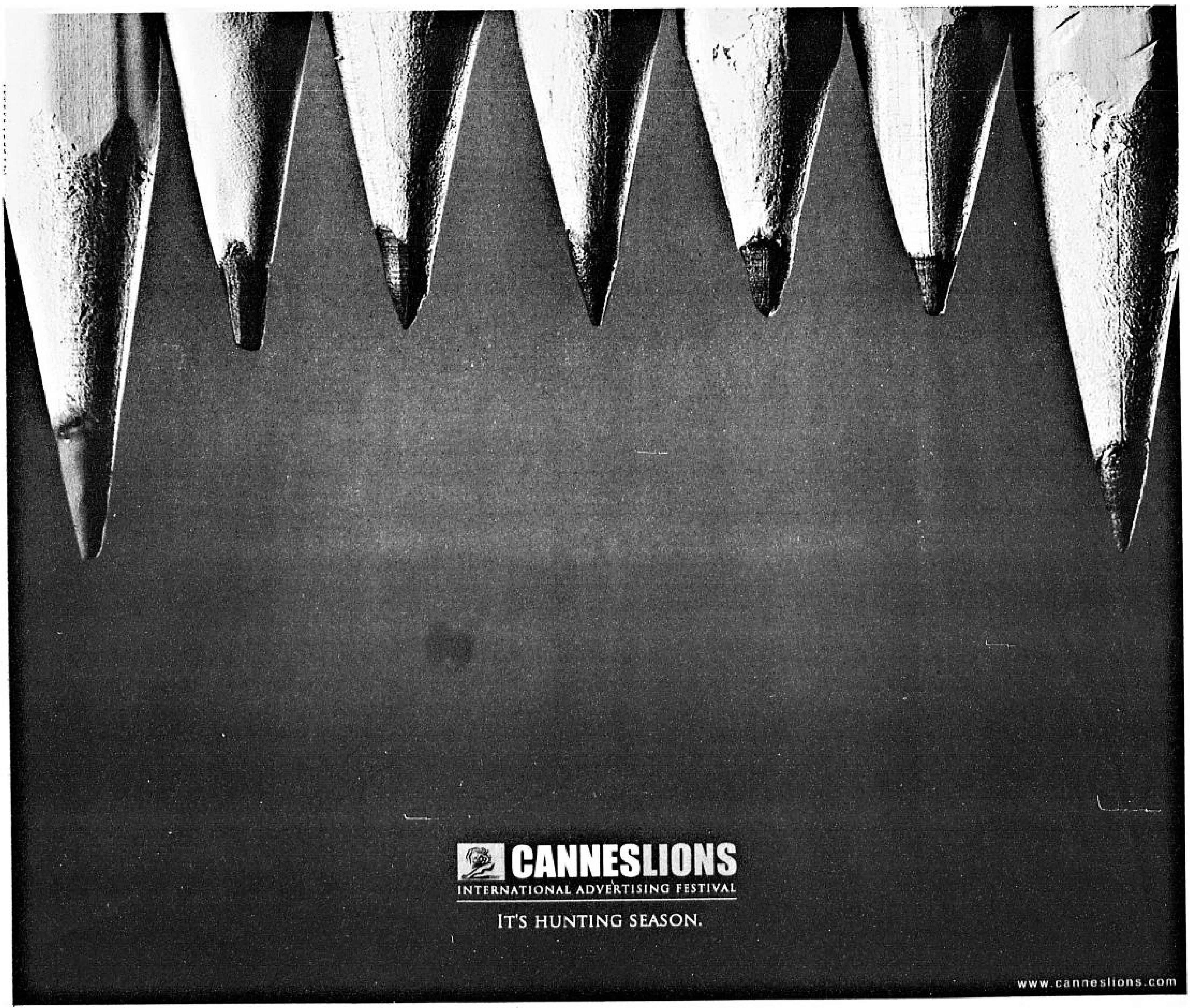
"Because of lack of funds, I sometimes used my own resources to go after video and audio recording pirates," he explained.

"Besides," he added, "what's the difference between my being on TV and congressmen who have radio programs or newspaper columns?"

Shortly after he was elected, Revilla told INQUIRER Entertainment that the movies would take a backseat to his duties in the Senate. He said being a senator would be his priority, and that he would only be appearing on his GMA 7 sitcom.

Last Friday, Revilla said the sitcom only takes six hours of his time for tapings, which happen after the sessions in Senate.

"But if the people want me out of the show, I am willing to sacrifice for the people," Revilla said.



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REVIEW

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.
Contributor

MAKE A WISH. Garner (left) as Jenna finds herself in strange new world with Ruffalo.

ONE THING I don't like about reunions is that they force one who attends it to deal with the crushing fact that we all float in a current of time where we sometimes feel lost, left behind or forgotten..

You worry about meeting people you once shared close friendships with, worry that your worlds might be vastly different now, worry whether you still have anything in common to talk about. You know one night of reminiscing is not going to cover all that had happened in the past, and that the past itself might seem something so far removed and therefore unfamiliar.

Despite all these worries, though, I found myself attending one such reunion recently—a sendoff for a college buddy who's set to start a new life in a new country. And I'm glad I saw "13 Going on 30" before I did.

The movie has such warmhearted sweetness and invigorating nostalgia it will likely make someone want to dig up his high school or college yearbook, or play the '80s songs that highlighted his coming of age, and yes, even look forward to what would otherwise be a daunting get-together with old friends.

Calling the story of "13 Going on 30" an original screenplay is a joke. There isn't anything in it you haven't seen already in other "wish fulfillment" movies—Tom Hanks' "Big" comes to mind in particular as an unimpeachable source. But originality isn't as much a factor for me as timeliness.

Tried and true

There are times when you walk into a movie not really expecting to see something significant and yet you find yourself walking out of it with a lighter step, with the sort of sappy happy feeling that Frank Capra movies used to give. And you couldn't care less if what you saw was the latest copycat version of whatever.

"13 Going on 30" had such an effect, and that is not necessarily wrong for a romantic comedy, not even in the cynical weathers that surround us. Perhaps this is why the movie is still in some theaters after three weeks. Its tried and true parable still works for audiences, and even within the limits and clichés of utterly predictable material, we are still able to identify with the movie's message and perhaps even take it to heart.

When you're a kid, all you want to do is grow up and that is exactly what happens to the central character of this movie. Jenna Rink (Christa B. Allen) is a suburban New Jersey kid who is fed up with being small and insignificant. It's 1987 and Jenna is turning 13, but she's not all too happy with herself. She frowns on her flat chest and desperately wants to be part of the coolest clique in her school, The Six Chicks, whose leader, Lucy Wyman, treats her like a doormat.

Jenna's best friend and next-door neighbor, Matt (Sean Marquette), doesn't buy into Jenna's idea of being cool. He thumbs his nose at Lucy and her groupies. After getting dissed at her own birthday party, however, Jenna ends up blaming Matt and wishing she were someone else, someone "thirty, flirty and thriving" just like it says in that article in Poise, her favorite Cosmo-like magazine.

Lesson

There's a saw that says, "Be careful what you wish for—it just might come true." And it's on this point that the movie's plot starts to turn. When Jenna comes to, she finds out that she has indeed skipped the next 17 years of her life, and that her grown-up version is a hot babe (Jennifer Garner of TV's "Alias") with a cool job and everything else she's been dreaming of. In her mind, she's still 13 years old. But remember, this is wish-fulfillment territory and naturally, she soon finds her feet in this new, strange world of 2004.

Well, you can guess what follows. There's no ghost of Christmas future, but just the same, there's a lesson to be learned from Jenna's unexpected tour. And it's a credit to the screenwriters, Josh Goldsmith and Cathy Yuspa ("What Women Want"), that they are able to dramatize this oft-used notion in a fresh way, even as the movie marches to a foregone conclusion.

The director is Gary Winick, who made "Tadpole" in 2002, a romantic comedy that featured a 15-year-old boy who fell in love with his stepmother played by Sigourney Weaver. Just like he did in "Tadpole," Winick finds the right mixture of humor and insight in "13 Going on 30."

The movie finds its comedy in many small moments of truth and accurate observation, especially those scenes that highlight Jenna's ignorance of the coded social language of adults. The movie pokes fun at corporate gamesmanship, sexual politics and age differences.

As an '80s teen, I also can't help but be amused at the pop cultural references during the period, which the movie gives in healthy doses. I'd pay to see "Thriller" get danced again in a present-day party.

Charming performance

While in past reviews, I have sometimes complained that most movies have too much music, I'll keep my peace on this one even though "13 Going on 30" is guilty of the same thing.

This movie had me from the moment it opened with the Go-Gos' "Head Over Heels."

Garner has undeniable charm and she's just girlish enough to be the ideal actress for the role of Jenna. Whether she's sneaking a peek at her boobs which matured overnight, or cowering, lonely and scared, alone for the first time in intimidating New York City, Garner never allows us to doubt that she's a 13-year-old inside. It's heartbreaking when you watch her Jenna's sweetness and joy get swamped by the demands of adulthood.

Lucy Greer, as the older Lucy Wyman, is a wonderful foil for Garner. Andy Serkis (Gollum in the "Lord of the Rings" movie trilogy), who plays Jenna's boss, is quite a revelation as a comic performer.

Mark Ruffalo, as the grown-up Matt, shares wonderful onscreen chemistry with Garner, especially when they have to play certain scenes for pathos, like Matt's wedding scene near the end, which had an interesting ethical twist. It's at moments like this one that "13 Going on 30" achieves the lost-innocent quality of a classic romantic movie.

Parents would probably relate to the movie differently than their kids. For old friends from the '80s having a reunion, it's a reminder that even though worlds had flowed on underneath them, they can still share the same zip and exuberance they once had as kids, because even if most of their realities have been suckered into adulthood, their hopes and fantasies remain the same.

'Ragnarok the Animation' is here

ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. and Level-Up! Inc. have joined forces to launch a massive multi-platform media campaign to promote the animé "Ragnarok the Animation," based on today's most popular online game in the Philippines, Ragnarok Online.

For the game's more than 200,000 players and followers nationwide, Ragnarok is a means to being part of a virtual world called Midgard, an amazing place of sprawling landscapes, magnificent towns and castles, and strange but lovable creatures.

Philippine Ragnarok Online the game allows Filipinos to interact with each other via the Internet where they can create their own characters, embark on an adventure, interact with other players, take part in keeping the game economy afloat through buying, selling and trading, and have online relationships.

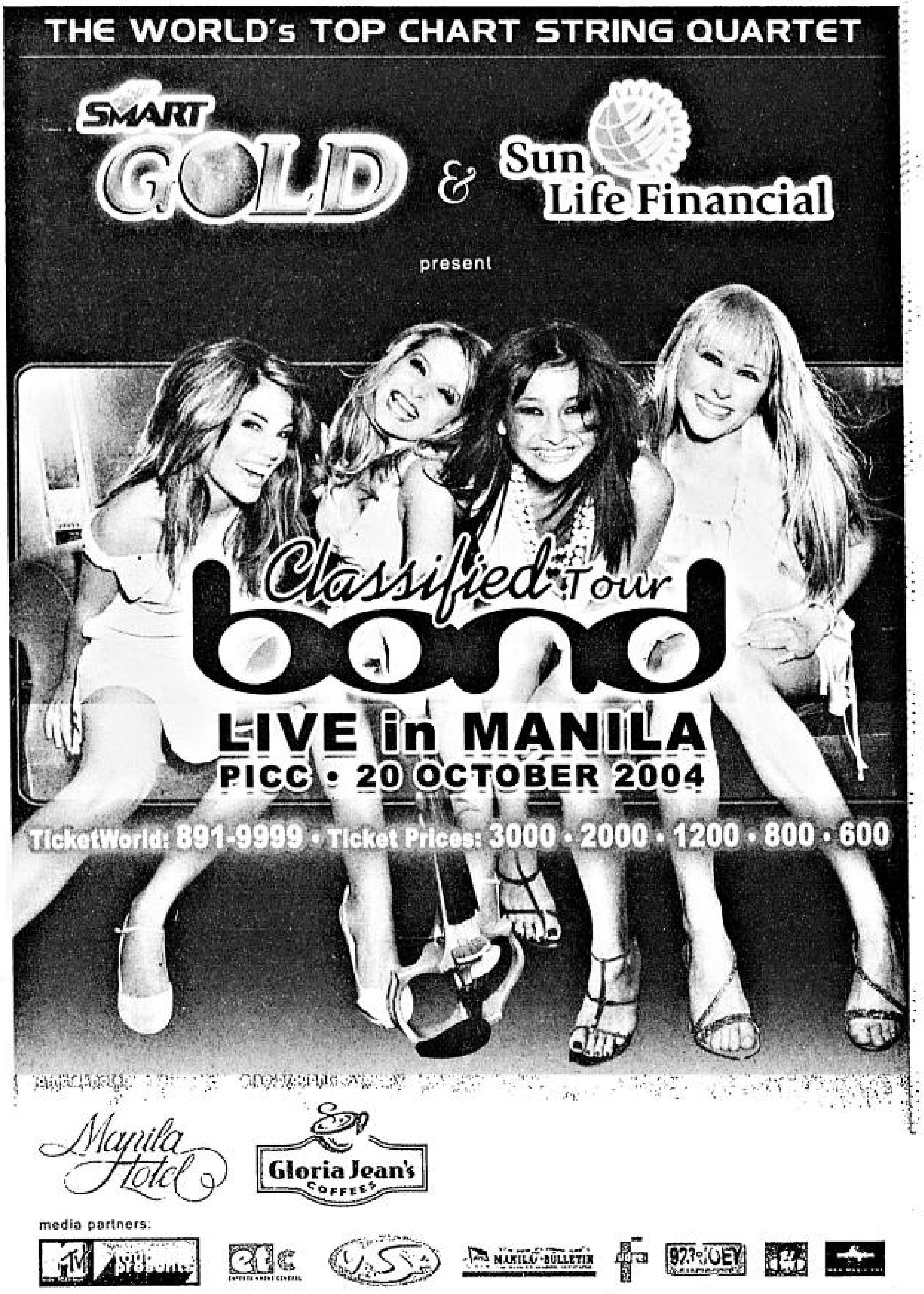
The new animé is dubbed in Filipino, with story and characters based on the hit game. It tells the story of the reluctant would-be heroes Roan and Yufa who will save the world from monsters. The pair's entourage consists of new friends they pick up in their various adventures.

ABS-CBN's recording subsidiary, Star Records, plans to release a Ragnarok soundtrack CD single. This will include the Filipino version of the animé's theme song, "We are the Stars," recorded by the Star Circle Quest Fab 5's Hero Angeles, Sandara Park, Joross Gamboa, Roxanne Guinoo and Melissa Ricks. The CD will be available for only P99.

The ABS-CBN Licensing group will sell merchandise, including Ragnarok apparel, caps, pillows, activity books, coloring books, poster books, character guide books, board games and puzzles. Bags, notebooks and other school items will be available in 2005.

ABS-CBN Interactive will offer cell phone downloadable features like Ragnarok picture messages, ring tones, picture logos, themes, mobile video downloads and wallpapers.

The following months will be an exciting time for all Ragnarok admirers. Rock on, Philippines!



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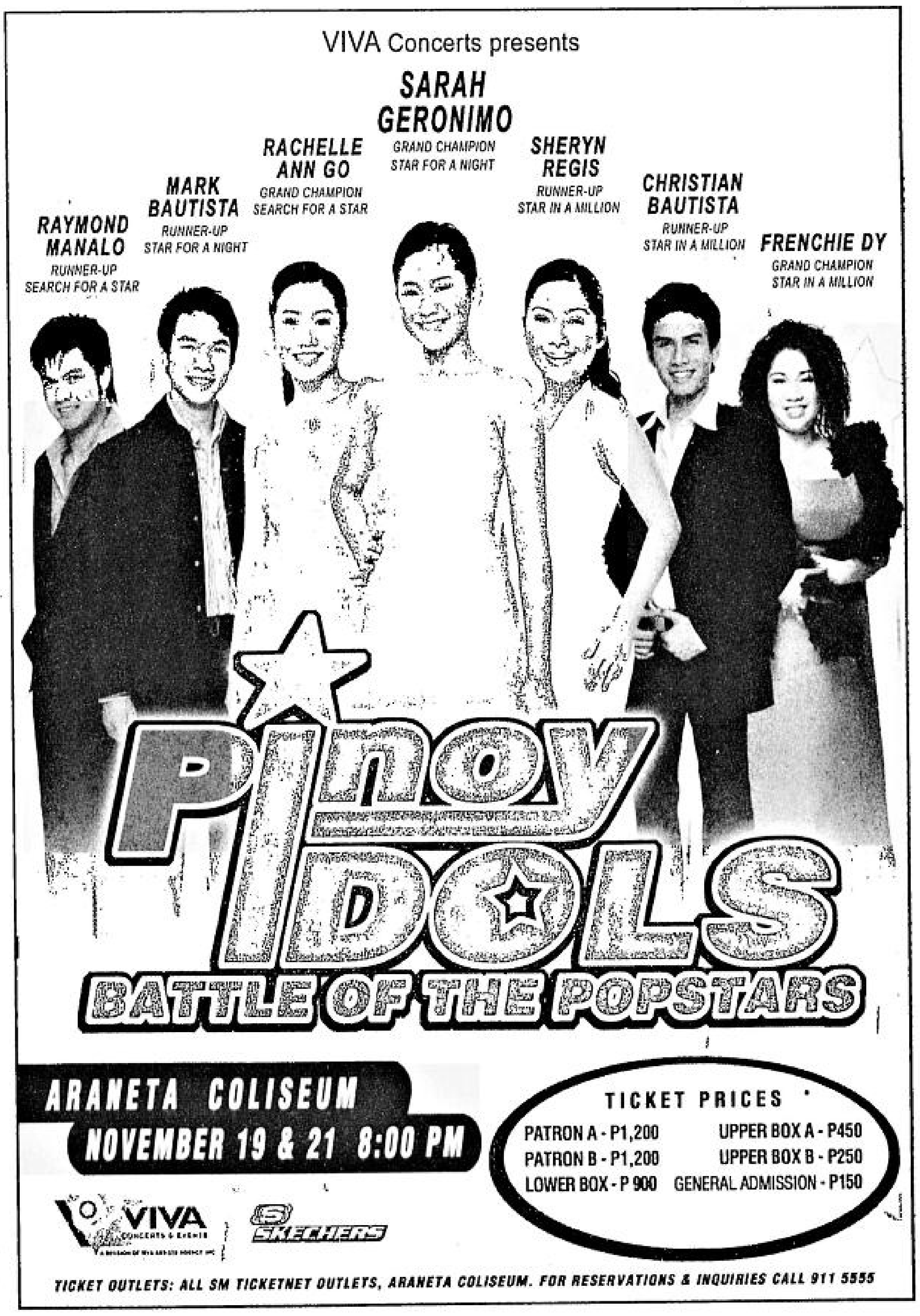

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WITH MARTIN Nievera...

Angela Bofill sings with 'amazing' Pinoy artists

'I feel this is my second home. I am thinking of applying for citizenship'

...and with Richard Merk

"FILIPINOS are really great musicians," said diva Angela Bofill during her most recent Philippine visit to perform at Merk's Bar Bistro in Makati.

"There's no reason for you not to make it in the top places, even in the States," Bofill said of local artists, during a press conference at Merk's last Sept. 27. "It's just that you've got to be there, plugging, trying out in auditions, training, working hard, getting an agent to help you, just sticking to it because you believe in yourself.

"I have seen some discrimination, too, in my time," she added, "but if I see people with prejudice, that's their problem, not mine. You just have to keep believing in yourself and trying."

Bofill is the angelic voice behind such hits as "This Time I'll Be Sweeter," "Angel of the Night," "Break it to Me Gently," "Time to Say Goodbye," and "Tonight I Give In."

Filipino artists were among the people who trooped to Merk's at Greenbelt 3 to hear the diva's angelic voice—and even to perform with her. Among them were Martin Nievera, Kuh Ledesma, Anna Fegi, Robert Seña, Isay Alvarez, Jacqui Magno, RJ Jacinto, Keith Martin, Carmi Martin, Sandra Lim and many others.

The bonus was Bofill obliged the audience during her two-night performances by singing a rousing duet, "Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing," with Richard Merk.

Richard and his wife Roni Tapia-Merk, together with several Ayala Land executives, were instrumental in bringing Bofill back to the Philippines. Bofill's last concert here was in the late '90s.

Bofill also sang with Martin Nievera in her concert. Lorrie Ilustre was musical director, with Miong Pacana on bass, Cesar Aguas on guitar, Mike Alba on drums, Bond Samson on second keyboard, and vocalists Babsie and Kitchy Molina and Sylvia Macaraeg.

Also sharing the stage with Bofill on her first night at Merk's were the Forte Band—with Chito Ilagan on bass, Joel Rasco on drums, Gary Lahoy on guitar, arranger Ketel Lahoy, and singers Mike Yonting, and Leny and Pat Castillo. On the second night, she was with Acoustic Jive—May Bayot on vocals, Romy Joloran on vocals and steel guitar, Danny Buenaventura on flute and saxophone, Gerry Duran on nylon guitar, Bobby Fider on bass, and Soc Alfafara on percussions.

Bofill also performed at the Glorietta, the Alabang Town Center, and the Ayala Center in Cebu.

"I can't imagine a life without music," Bofill said in the Merk's press conference. "My mom says I came out of her womb not crying but singing. I've been singing since I was four. I'm very lucky I still have my voice. No longer three and a half octaves, only three octaves and... perhaps two notes! But one of my daughters has three and a half. I heard her sing, and was impressed."

Of the country and its people, she said, "There are just so many gorgeous, really beautiful Filipinos, on the inside and outside. You are amazing. I have so many friends here. I feel this is my second home. I am thinking of applying for citizenship."

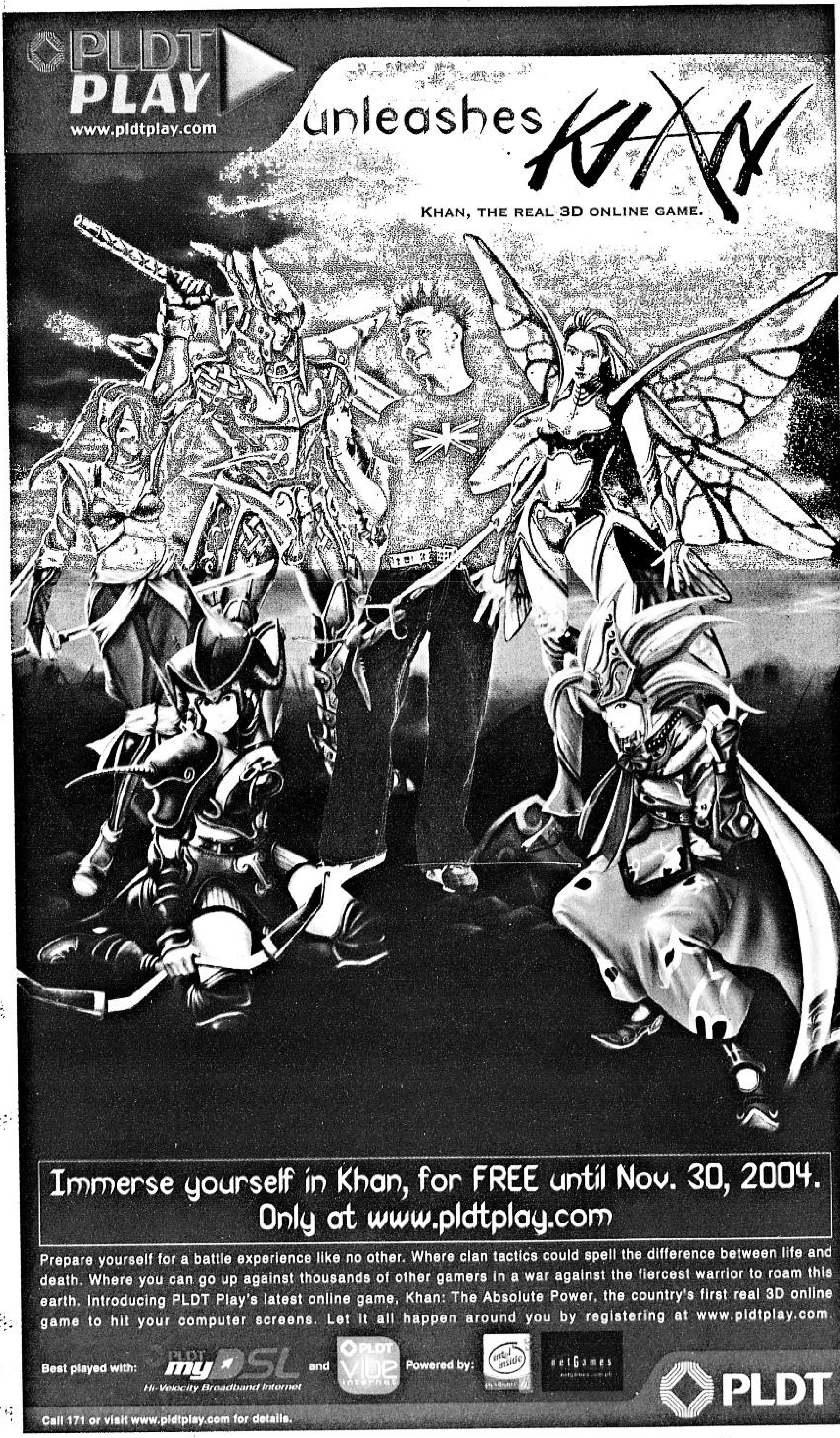
She said she dreams of doing opera. "My great favorite is 'Porgy and Bess.' When I was pregnant with my first child, I kept singing its arias all the time, at home, in the car. My husband must've been thinking, this lady is going nuts!"

Bofill was delighted to hear she is an icon to many Filipinos. She said she herself looks up to Aretha Franklin, Celia Cruz, Tito Fuentes, Dionne Warwick, Stevie Wonder, and she is also amazed at the energy and talents of Britney Spears and Alicia Keys.

"There are just too many people I admire," she said, adding, "Also, if you happen to meet Jean-Claude van Damme, please tell him I'm available."

She fell into stitches as the media people joined in the laughter.

The shows at Merk's were made possible by Trademark Concepts Inc., BMW Philippines, Hotel Intercontinental Manila, which was Bofill's official residence, BMG Records (Pilipinas) Inc., Premier Wines and Spirits, OLT Ventures (Pharmaceutical Products, Medical Supplies and Equipment), and charmMed, 91 Wines, Philippine Star, Business World, Manila Bulletin, Philippine Daily Inquirer, The Manila Times, The Foreign Post, Today, San Miguel Corp., ABS-CBN, MYX, Dream 106, dwLL 94.7, dwTM 89.9, dzRF FM, JAM 88.3, W-Rock 96.3, Crossover 105.1 and Joey 92.3.



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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

Hire the disabled and cut costs, disabled whiz urges

BAGUIO CITY—A disabled computer wizard has asked the government and private companies to tap the services of the disabled to help them cut operating costs and reduce the government's P200-billion deficit.

Benedicto Magdaraog, 27, director for Internet development of Web consultant Innov8, Inc., said the country should also take advantage of the technology that enables employees to work from their homes.

"The real homebound workers are people with disabilities who don't need to go to offices," Magdaraog told the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines conference here on Thursday.

"Isn't that a cost benefit? Wouldn't that save millions of pesos if your workers don't endure long traffic jams? They don't have any offices?"

Magdaraog is himself immobile due to the debilitating Pompeii disease but he was hailed at the 41st annual PMAP conference for succeeding in making Innov8, Inc. the country's leading Web consultancy firm to date.

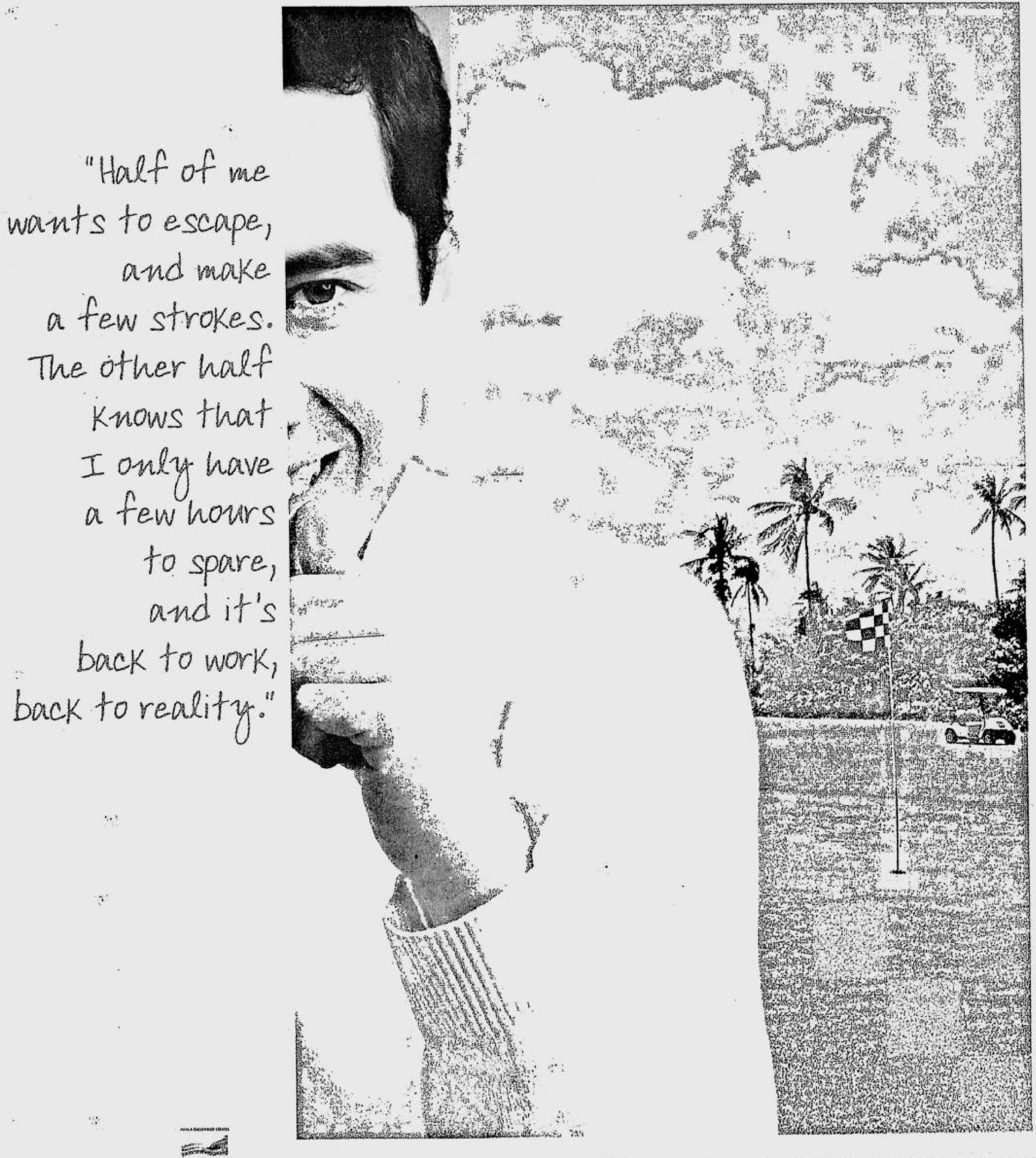
Grace Abella-Zata, PMAP vice president, said companies are seriously considering Magdaraog's proposal because global trade has already changed the way world business transacts with labor.

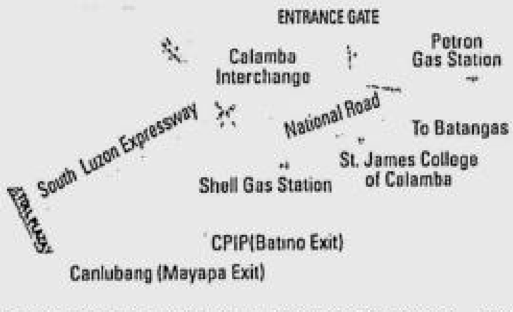
Susan Grace Rivera-Manalo,

HIRE/ B2

JUAN Benedicto Magdaraog is a 27-year-old, who can't breathe Baguio's thin air, and whose disease prevents him from moving his muscles. But the Internet director of Innov8,Inc. braved the trip to the 41st annual PMAP conference to ask personnel managers to hire disabled workers.

VINCENT CABREZA, PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU


"Half of me
wants to escape,
and make
a few strokes.
The other half
knows that
I only have
a few hours
to spare,
and it's
back to work,
back to reality."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Showcasing Negros craftsmanship once more

By Amy R. Remo

AFTER 16 years of reaping success for hundreds of budding entrepreneurs, the Association of Negros Producers Inc. is back for its annual trade fair, showcasing yet another best of Negrense craftsmanship and creativity.

Dubbed as "Hecho Derecho" (meaning "moving forward"), the 17th Negros trade fair boasts of the province's best and newest products.

Shoppers could expect new, innovative products ranging from handwoven garments and skillfully smocked children's clothes; bags and shoes; ceramic and laminated novelty gift items and fashion accessories; housewares and furnishings made of abaca, coco and corn husks; native delicacies such as pastelitos, señoritos and piaya; costume jewelry and handicrafts.

More than 30 exhibitors are participating in this four-day event being held at the Expo Exchange in Greenbelt 1 at Makati City.

The said fair concludes today.

Gracing the opening of the fair last Sept. 30 was Vice President Noli "Kabayan" de Castro, who commended the ANP for "promoting the Philippines in the fields of business and entrepreneurship to the entire world."

"These trade fairs are not merely income-generating schemes. They also serve as fields for making renowned Philippine creativity, ingenuity and character," said De Castro during the opening ceremony.

Sponsored annually by ANP since 1988, these trade fairs aim to promote Negrense products to the bigger urban market, endorse the province itself, and promote a culture of productivity and technological upgrading among Visayan SMEs.

14th BULAWAN AWARDS 2004

ABOVE photo shows Vice President Noli de Castro (middle) and Sen. Mar Roxas (right) gracing the opening of the 17th Negros trade fair held at Greenbelt 1. Bottom photo shows the nominated products for the 14th Bulawan Awards.

PHOTOS BY EGAY MONTAÑA

To further encourage its members to come up with new, more creative and innovative products, ANP established the Bulawan Awards in 1990.

Bulawan Awards, which is a product-design competition, aims "to encourage ingenuity, creativity and commitment of local producers in terms of product innovation and packaging, or in the invention of new products."

Bulawan is an Ilonggo word, which means gold.

Highly anticipated and most coveted by ANP members, the Bulawan Awards has become one of the highlights of the annual Negros trade fair.

It is also through this award that ANP acknowledges outstanding entrepreneurs, who managed to come up with innovative products and novel designs, which spell value, prestige and excellence.

For this year's 14th Bulawan Awards, 37 entries were received, each vying for its six categories.

Qualified entries are new products and/or products that have new designs. They could be existing products, whose packaging was improved. Also, the products should not have been displayed yet or sold before at ANP's showroom in Bacolod City.

Winners for the 14th Bulawan Awards are the following:

Houseware category: Coconut bowl frames by Babylan's Cococraft
Gift/Fashion accessories category: Jewelry box by Negros Oriental Arts and Heritage (Noah)
Tabletop category: Hana collection by Hacienda Crafts Co.
Lumina category: Candle votive holders by Silay Export
Lighting category: Laminated floor lamp by 3A's Crafts Industries
Food category: Choco coated banana figs by Alter Trade Corp.

After more than a decade of giving Visayan small- and medium-sized enterprises well-deserved recognition and business opportunities both locally and internationally, the non-stock, nonprofit ANP has earned the high esteem of various organizations, individuals and government agencies.

An added incentive in these trade fairs sponsored by ANP was that they paved the way for Filipino ingenuity and craftsmanship to stand out in the world market.

Negrense products have found scrupulous buyers among the cosmopolitan markets of New York, US, Europe, Japan, Africa, Middle East, Singapore and Scandinavian countries.

To date, about a third of ANP's producer-members are engaged in the export business.

To further advocate the interest of its members, ANP offers them various programs, initiatives, lectures and development trainings. It has also established partnerships with various organizations and agencies.

From 47 members, ANP—composed of housewives, professionals and entrepreneurs—now has more than a hundred member enterprises.

And to think, it all started with 15 Manila-based Negrense women, who rose to the challenge of rebuilding the Negros province when sugar prices fell drastically sometime in the 1980s.

The Negros economy, which was then wholly dependent on its monocrop sugar industry, severely suffered. The crisis left about 150,000 workers unemployed and a thousand others, who were indirectly dependent on the industry, displaced.

Encouraged by then Gov. Bitay Lacson, these women provided the Negrense with an alternative employment. They then set up the House of Negros Foundation to showcase the innovativeness and creativity of the Negrense.

The HNF, which evolved to ANP in 1988, gave backyard industries ample help and exposure in the local and international markets.

ANP's first trade fair was held at the parking lot of a five-star hotel in Makati City.

The Negrense women who founded the ANP include Tima Lacson, Rosa Isabel Ledesma, Nora Varela, Cynthia Flores, Sylvia Campos and Mitos Cooper.

And to this date, these dedicated women continue to help the Negrense people stand out in the local and world markets.

Hire the disabled . . .

From page B1

country manager of US-human resource consultant Hewitt Inc., said the world economy has already shifted to "offshoring," which is defined as the "relocation of company production or manufacturing to a location, which offers lower costs, and is usually overseas."

Manalo said a recent Hewitt study showed that half of Fortune 100 companies "prefer offshoring ... in a world of work that has gone global."

Magdaraog said his "secret agenda" for showing up at the conference is to ask companies to hire more disabled workers.

"I am trying to shift corporate mindsets. We have a large pool of skilled workers among the disabled but they are often bypassed or ignored, and still remain unproductive," Magdaraog told the INQUIRER.

Call centers and information technology companies have become the latest business fad that can accommodate "people who can't walk," he said.

"There are (an infinite number of) skills that a disabled worker can train for, so call centers can mine (the disabled community's) most literate, or companies can tap people who don't walk to handle legal and medical transcriptions," he said.

"I started in this business with only a brother and a cousin, and we did fine. I came here to prove to companies that we can handle these jobs," Magdaraog said.

He assured companies that the disabled "won't be taking special salaries."

"I receive the same health benefits as the next employee so there are no new expenses for employers," he said.

Zata said Magdaraog is actually reinforcing the practice of "outsourcing," a business euphemism for contracting specific job requirements outside of companies.

Oscar Contreras, PMAP president, said outsourcing has become a cost-effective remedy to the financial woes of most companies, and may be the government's real solution to some of its deficit problems. But militant labor groups object to the concepts of outsourcing and offshoring, he said.

Manalo said the country can benefit from offshoring. The Hewitt study showed that offshore firms tripled job volumes by 13 to 25 percent, she said.

China, India and the Philippines are viable Asian countries which US companies eye for offshore development, she said.

Texas Instruments and various manufacturing firms started opening offshore firms in the country in the 1980s, but the volume of offshore work will rise significantly in the next few years, she said. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Much ado about a heavenly bed

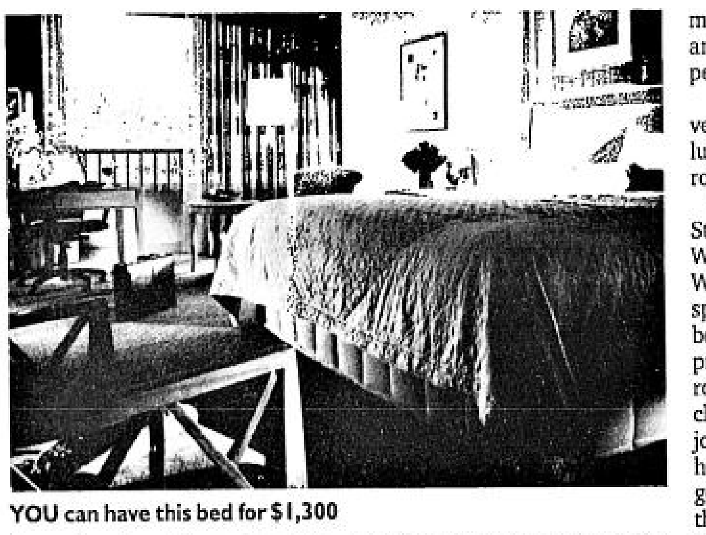
A NICE, comfortable bed is still the main attraction of a hotel room.

This is supported by a five-year-old study made by the Westin Hotels and Resorts which showed 63 percent of travelers say a good night's sleep is the most important service a hotel can provide. Sleep is so important that more than twice as many travelers said they'd take a great night's sleep over great sex.

Yet the same people surveyed said hotels do not meet this need.

The 600 frequent travelers surveyed for Westin by Guideline Research and Consulting Corporation of New York City, a national market research and public opinion polling firm showed:

- Travelers say they get less sleep on the road as compared with home (49 percent); sleep fewer hours (51 percent); and are more likely to wake up in the middle of the night in a hotel bed (31 percent).
- The quality of sleep travelers receive on the road is worse (50 percent) and 31 percent claim their performance on the road has suffered because of a bad night's sleep in a hotel room.
- Three-quarters of the executives surveyed said they're tired when they return home from a business trip and need to catch up on their sleep.



YOU can have this bed for $1,300

- On average, it takes a traveler 24 minutes to fall asleep in a hotel room compared to 15 minutes at home.
- Most business travelers (82 percent) dislike something about hotel beds as compared with their beds at home. These criticisms center around the mattress being too soft (27 percent) or too hard (21 percent) as well as there not being enough pillows (16 percent).
- By far, travelers said a comfortable bed is the most important item in a hotel room (49 percent). All other hotel room items—including a fax, a good shower, the TV, a large desk and a minibar—were mentioned by less than 10 percent of the travelers.
- The bed is seen as sort of a "mission control center" in hotel rooms. On average, travelers spend more than half their time in the hotel room in the bed itself (56 percent). When asked what activities they perform in hotel beds, travelers said sleep (81 percent); watch TV (55 percent); read (44 percent); or make phone calls (42 percent) and more than one in three (36 percent) do work in bed.
- Almost all the travelers surveyed (84 percent) said that a luxurious bed would make a hotel room more attractive to them.

Because of these findings, the Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide Inc., The Philippine Westin Hotel's parent company, spent a year developing a new bed for Westin. They began the process by filling a hotel ballroom with 50 beds from 35 hotel chains—representing all the major chains plus luxury boutique hotels around the world. The goal was to build the best bed in the hotel industry. The Heavenly Bed was born. It consists of a custom-designed pillow top mattress set; a cozy down blanket; three crisp sheets ranging in thread count from 180 to 250; a comforter; a duvet and five of the best pillows in the business.

The bed became so popular that they made it available to anyone who wanted to buy, including the beddings and linen.

In the Philippines, the Westin Hotel here has 58 rooms with the Heavenly Bed. One can buy a bed here for $1,300; if with the pillows and linen, it costs $2,900. They can just go to the hotel.

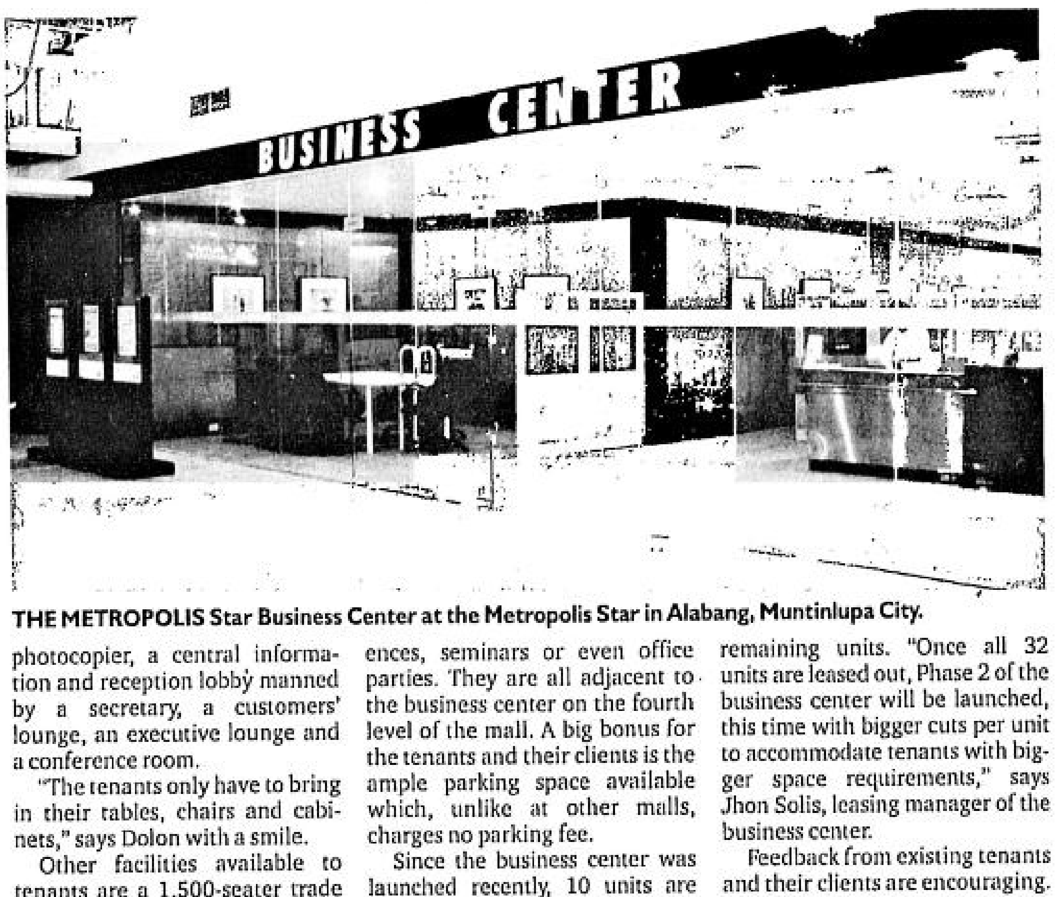
Mixing business and pleasure at a mall south of Manila

A BUSINESS center inside a mall?

"Why not?" asks Edith Dolon, general manager of the Metropolis Star in Alabang, Muntinlupa City. "After all, malls have become not only places for shopping and entertainment but for transacting business as well." Dolon explains the decision to add a business center as a feature of the sprawling mall is aimed at creating a market niche for medium-sized and small-scale entrepreneurs who are looking for an affordable but convenient location for their businesses.

Conceptually, the Metropolis Star Business Center is a corporate hub inside one of the biggest malls South of Manila. It is designed to house various business offices under one roof offering not only accessibility but also first-class amenities to the tenants and their clients.

The Metropolis Star Business Center, located on the fourth level of the mall, has 32 units available, each measuring 9 sq.m. Each unit is provided with a local telephone line and centralized air-conditioning and comes with lighting fixtures and computer outlets. Unit owners have common use of a fax machine and photocopier, a central information and reception lobby manned by a secretary, a customers' lounge, an executive lounge and a conference room.



THE METROPOLIS Star Business Center at the Metropolis Star in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

START-UP ventures can get an office in a mall. All they have to bring are tables and chairs.

"The tenants only have to bring in their tables, chairs and cabinets," says Dolon with a smile.

Other facilities available to tenants are a 1,500-seater trade hall and several spacious function rooms for bigger conferences, seminars or even office parties. They are all adjacent to the business center on the fourth level of the mall. A big bonus for the tenants and their clients is the ample parking space available which, unlike at other malls, charges no parking fee.

Since the business center was launched recently, 10 units are now occupied and operational, and inquiries are coming in for the remaining units. "Once all 32 units are leased out, Phase 2 of the business center will be launched, this time with bigger cuts per unit to accommodate tenants with bigger space requirements," says Jhon Solis, leasing manager of the business center.

Feedback from existing tenants and their clients are encouraging. Among the advantages mentioned are location and accessibility, affordability of rent, overall ambience and look of the place and the amenities.

"Opening my business at the Metropolis Star Business Center is the best thing that ever happened to me," exclaims Vivi Collado, proprietress of Soleil Travel and Tours. "Imagine, a fully equipped office complete with a secretary for as low as P5,000 a month!"

"My clients are impressed with my new office," says contractor Gerry Reyes whose Russel and Well Enterprises occupies one of the units. "Now for less than the amount I used to pay for my former office where the aircon often conks out, I get an elegantly furnished office in a highly professional atmosphere."

At Metropolis Star Alabang, mixing business and pleasure certainly makes sense—and cents.

Unique meeting venues in the US, Canada, UK and Caliraya

By Sandra Garcia
Contributor

BUSINESS TRAVEL

THE MEETING rooms of the stylish 60-room Petersham hotel in the UK can hold a small one-to-one meeting to a conference for up to 35 participants.

They offer an excellent choice of rooms with the River Rooms featuring breath taking views of the River Thames (which according to The Petersham's write-up "will surely make going back to the office a little difficult" for the participants).

The hotel's Cellars, a great venue for post-meeting receptions and private parties, has been used for aging wine since the property was built in 1865.

Thousands of bottles of wine and port lie along the bins that surround the Tasting Room and the Claret Room.

The vaulted ceiling and alcoves are filled with candles that light the room in a magical way, creating a unique setting for theme parties like murder mystery parties and Halloween parties, etc.

Sixteen guests can comfortably dine at one majestic table in The Claret Room. Up to 30 guests can enjoy wine tasting in the adjoining Tasting Room. Here, business and social groups can get their pre-meal drinks.

The Petersham, a Surrey hotel located 30 minutes from the Heathrow airport, is in Nightingale Lane, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6UZ. T: (44) 020 8940 7471 F: (44) 020 8939 1098 or email enq@petershamhotel.co.uk

A company called Unique Venues offers business meeting facilities, conference centers, colleges, universities, movie theaters, entertainment venues, collegiate conference centers and other special places in the US, Canada and the UK. They offer unique venues that businessmen and meeting organizers may never have imagined possible to use.

Their venue database consists of 7,000+ business meeting facilities, including conference centers, meeting rooms and other unique business meeting facilities and centers.

For more details on out-of-the-box meeting venue locations, please visit www.uniquevenues.com.

Nestled on the shores of a mountaintop lake in Barangay Lewin, Lumban, Laguna, is the Caliraya Re-Creation Center, a two-and-a-half hours' drive from Metro Manila.

UNIQUE/ B4

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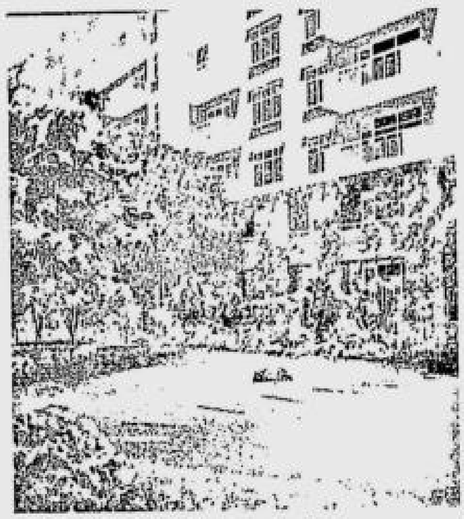

ARTISTS' perspective of Serendra

Bridging the gap between convenience and open spaces

AFTER the brisk sales take-up of the garden units in Phase 1 of Serendra, a unique residential community featuring clusters of low to mid-rise condominium sections in a garden setting, Ayala Land Inc. (ALI), the country's premiere real estate developer, will soon be launching new sections that will have more garden view units.

"The market has embraced the concept of Serendra extremely well," says Kate Ilagan, senior division manager of ALI. "In Section A, the garden units moved quickly and were all practically taken up within a few months after launch. This only emphasizes the need for a development that would bridge the gap between the desired convenience of living close to places of work, school, and play and the lack of reasonably priced residences in the city set amidst green open spaces. Serendra ends this compromise and brings together the best of both worlds—a home close to everyday conveniences surrounded by gardens."

Set on a 12-hectare development site at the Bonifacio Global City, as much as two-thirds of Serendra's total area is dedicated to open spaces, greenery, and landscaping. "It is because of the gardens that Serendra will be your sanctuary within the city, an escape from the hustle and bustle of the daily grind," Ilagan noted. "And although everybody in Serendra will enjoy and benefit from the gardens, the experience will be all the more special from a garden unit which will have calming views of Serendra's greenery and will bring the sanctuary right into your living room."

In the new sections to be launched, almost all the units will have a garden view. Particular attention was given to make sure that the layouts maximized the views of the gardens from the units. In addition, selected units will have special features such as wraparound views (from three sides of the unit) and full height glass in the master's bedroom which will provide even more spectacular views of the gardens. The bi-level lantern units that were very popular in Section A were retained and balconies are provided for all units that are now larger than those in Section A.

"The garden concept appeals most to families with growing children and older couples whose children have families of their own," Ilagan observed. "Parents will be able to enjoy watching their children run around and play freely, a simple joy that isn't enjoyed as much anymore as it should be. Older couples are attracted by the secure and serene setting that will allow them to take walks and sit outside yet still be close enough for their children and grandchildren to visit." Serendra is a people-driven place that breaks new ground in condominium design and lifestyle. Halfway between a house and a condo, the gardens are its strongest and most defining feature.

For inquiries on Serendra, call 848-5000 or 849-0551 or email serendra@ayalaland.com.ph. You may also visit the Serendra Pavilion at the 26th St. Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila or their website: www.serendra.com.

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From teaching to banking, she manages by affection

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

LIKE many senior bank executives, Ma. Lourdes "Nitz" A. Claravall, SVP for Marketing of the Bank of the Philippine Islands learned from the wisdom of management gurus.

But her mentors were not limited to silver-haired individuals who hailed from Ivy League schools, with a lot of letters after their names.

Her first teachers were actually impressionable, eager to please and sometimes rambunctious students from the Xavier High School batch 1972, who constantly challenged her to come up with something interesting to hold 40 minutes of their undivided attention.

"Teaching spoils you. The students were very appreciative. But they know immediately if you did not come to class prepared," Claravall tells SundayBiz.

Claravall, thus, went to her English classes with more than what the day's lessons required, racking her brains every night for novel ways to spark young boys' interest in prose and poetry and coax them to put their thoughts on paper.

"I had to fit into their lifestyle rather than the other way around. I would give them assignments like: Watch the Crispa-Toyota game tonight, and write an essay comparing the playing styles of Bogs Adornado, Philip Cezar, Robert Jaworski and Ramon Fernandez," she says.

Favorite teacher

She learned as much as she taught and easily became a favorite among the teachers.

Her room was transformed into a flower shop during Valentine's Day and Christmas meant going home with arms full of gifts. She was even asked to be the muse of the boys' basketball team.

"My students were my mentors. The boys of Xavier were exceptionally dedicated students and were eager to learn and motivated me to be a good teacher. I could not enter the classroom without a good plan to spend 40 minutes of their time. I didn't want to disappoint them," she says.

She thanks Fr. Joseph Galdon of the Ateneo de Manila University for introducing her to the heady world of teaching.

NITZ finished AB English

"I was an English Literature major at St. Scholastica's College and one of the requirements for graduation was an oral exam in my chosen field of specialization. The head of the exam committee was Fr. Galdon of Ateneo who paid me the supreme compliment of slipping a note right after a particularly tricky question, telling me that he wanted to hire me!" Claravall says.

Fr. Galdon hired her that summer of 1969 as his assistant in a literature workshop, which led to a teaching position at Xuang Chi as Xavier School was known then.

But while she enjoyed herself immensely and got consistent marks as an excellent teacher, she was becoming restless.

"I was getting bored. So one day I opened the phone directory, and stuck a pin on a page. It happened that I hit on the name J. Walter Thompson, so I applied," Claravall says.

As fate would have it, JWT was looking for trainees.

All the prospective employees had to do was pass a take home test with just 10 items.

Sounds easy. But then she was asked to do such Herculean tasks as launch a campaign of a new shampoo, recommend 10 brand names for a peanut butter product, analyze a car advertising campaign and write a poem about Hamlet in iambic pentameter. All in 24 hours.

Claravall, however, was so excited about getting more of her creative juices flowing that she completed all 10 and got into the company as a prize. That marked the beginning of her second career.

Copywriter

She started off as an advertising copywriter at J. Walter where she stayed for two years before moving on to the Philippine Advertising Counselors, where she eventually became creative director and head for strategic planning.

As creative director, her group won numerous Advertising Excellence Awards for blue-chip clients, including San Miguel Beer, Royal Tru Orange, Marlboro, Magnolia Chicken, Magnolia Ice Cream, Manila Peninsula and Philippine Airlines.

Her crowning achievement was the "Isang Platitong Mani" commercial for San Miguel, which was judged the best television ad of the past 50 years by the Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies.

The commercial featured Filipino icons such as Rico J. Puno (singer), Bert Marcelo (comedian), Gabriel "Flash" Elorde (boxer), Jose "Amang" Parica (billiards player) and Eduardo Domingo (jockey).

With all the awards she got and the enviable working relationship she developed with her clients, many thought that she would retire from the industry.

NITZ at 29

But Claravall was not through with shifting careers. Advertising even became the bridge that brought her to the banking world.

It was 1986 and the Bank of the Philippine Islands was preparing to surprise the market with its BPI Express Credit Card, thus, it needed agencies to help it execute its marketing and advertising program to push the product.

Claravall got wind of BPI's plans and PAC immediately joined the ranks of advertising agencies that pitched for the account. She got the contract and a job offer.

She did not accept it the first time it was offered, but did so the following year. She called it a leap of faith.

"I transferred to BPI in 1987, just after Edsa. It was a perfect time to reassess priorities and make new beginnings," she says.

Those were exciting times at BPI as senior management was mapping out the vision to transform the bank from a traditional bricks and mortar company to one that embraces technology to deliver services 24 hours a day.

"The grand plan for a multi channel, multi product virtual banking network of ATMs, landlines, computers and cellphones that operate 24x7 worldwide, giving the instant gratification of bills being paid and cellphones being reloaded realtime was then being developed, under the guidance of BPI's president," she says.

Claravall contributed to the transformation by setting up BPI's card products division, anchored on BPI Express Teller and BPI Express Credit Card. She also launched Express Teller's Express Payment System, the country's first debit card.

Team play

She says she would not have been able to accomplish these feats without the support of her team.

"In banking, my subordinates propped me up. I designed what I called "management by affection." People who worked for me did things for me because they liked and respected me. In the process, I helped them succeed in their careers because I liked and respected them. It was for me a win-win situation. My mother would say "*Amor con amor se paga.*" Love is paid by love," she says.

CLARAVALL today

The lessons from her teaching career of long ago, however, were never far from her mind. She still does her homework and comes to work prepared. And for her, banking is not much different from advertising or teaching.

"I have had three very different careers so far: academe, advertising and banking. They are very different disciplines, and yet in many aspects, the fundamentals that you need to succeed in each are very similar: Do your homework, have a plan, and be aware that the content varies every time you change the context," she says.

Claravall also can't stress enough the importance of having a happy home life to crafting a fulfilling career.

"There is no underestimating the role of a happy marriage to a good career. A supportive spouse and a happy family life frees you to be yourself and to be the best that you could be," she says.

Unique meeting venues …

From page B3

The 7.6-hectare property affords a spectacular view of Lake Caliraya, with the mythical heights of Banahaw, Makiling, and Cristobal providing the lush green backdrop.

The center boasts of indoor and outdoor facilities for meetings, seminars, birthdays and receptions for up to 500 people.

The main function room can seat 200 to 300 participants, and their new Valley Theater provides for cozy and comfortable theater-style conferences or movie viewing.

Smaller groups can opt to hold sessions at the center's open pavilions or nipa cottages. Business center provisions for photocopying, facsimile, and video are available, along with other services like laundry, 24-hour electricity, secure carpark, ferry boats, shuttle, bookstore and gift shop.

The center has 72 air-conditioned hotel type rooms equipped with their own toilets and hot and cold water, which are available on single, double, triple, quadruple or quintuple occupancy. Visitor-friendly overnight rates for five people includes three eat-all-you-can buffet meals.

Water sports are a main attraction at Caliraya. Guests can skim the waters on speedboats, water skis, kneeboards, or jetskis; or leisurely flow on canoes or kayaks; or take on the full expanse of the lake on a four-hour boat ride.

Owned and managed by the husband and wife team of Rhollie and Lady Au Sabater.

For more info, call 892-7777, loc. 524, 525, 215, and 212; or email: info@caliraya.net. Or log on to their website: www.caliraya.net.

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THE PETERSHAM Hotel in the United Kingdom

CALIRAYA Re-Creation Center's 72 rooms are fully air-conditioned and equipped with individual bathrooms with hot and cold water.

'The Edge' takes it to the limit

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THIS TIME, Philippine Townships Inc. (Philtown) is taking customers to the edge.

In its re-launch last month, Philtown introduced its new vertical division covering three of its high-rise luxury developments—One McKinley Place , Fairways Tower and Metropolitan Tower—collectively known as "The Edge."

"Renaming of the vertical division sort of captures what we do as an organization. We bring to the limit what we could possibly deliver to the clients in terms of the quality we deliver, the most reasonable value we can sell it at and the most desirable location we can place the project in. We always bring it to the limit so in the end it is the client that wins," Philtown president and chief operating officer Rally Martinez said.

For this venture, the RFM-led Philtown is setting aside roughly P3 billion to complete its two high-rise housing projects by 2008.

Martinez said the company had started its condominium project, dubbed Fairways Tower, along McKinley Road in Makati this year and will complete this 28-story tower by 2006.

Fairways Tower, seen as a thumbprint of modern style, averages 60 square meters per unit and sells at below P5 million each.

Philtown estimates to spend roughly P1.5 billion to complete this project.

Martinez also said it will spend approximately P1.5 billlion for its next condominium project, the Metropolitan Tower located across Rockwell which sits on the site of the Metropolitan sports club.

The Metropolitan tower boasts a new concept in high-rise residential, providing residents with access to a sports club. A future haven for sports and general recreation, the project will house facilities for badminton, tennis, swimming and gym activities.

Philtown will begin renovating the sports club next month and will rename it the Metropolitan Athletic Club (MAC). Renovation is expected to be finished by June next year. Metropolitan Tower, which is the residential component of the project, will house 600 units and will sell each at roughly P4.5 million for a 50-square-meter unit.

Construction for the Metropolitan Tower will start late next year and finish by the first semester of 2008.

Philtown chair Jose Ma. Concepcion III said the new projects will largely be financed from the sale of Philtown's other property projects.

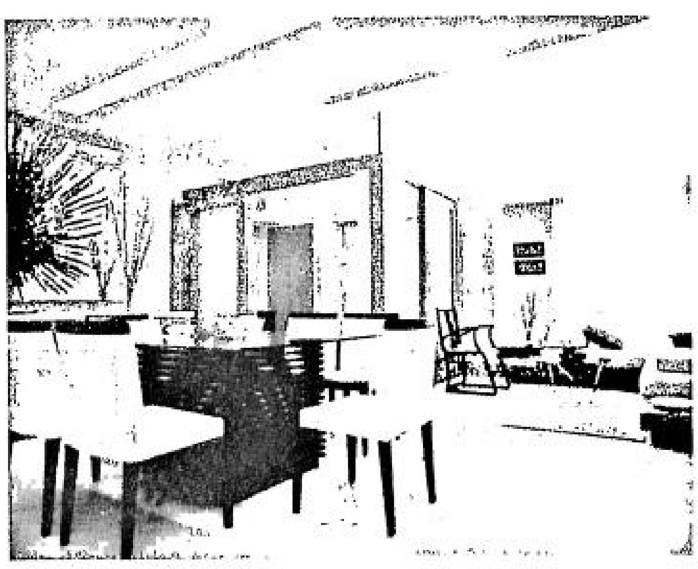
Philtown's maiden venture into high-rise development is One McKinley Place (OMP), a 43 -story condominium development in Fort Bonifacio which started construction in 1998. The completion of OMP is one of Fort Bonifacio's bright landmarks. Glass is used to bring the outdoors in

DESIGN by Ed Calma

while earth-tone sofa sets and elegant artworks blend sophistication into the design.

In 2001, OMP experienced temporary liquidity problems as a result of the economic slowdown and temporarily stopped the construction of OMP.

Philtown's joint venture partner in OMP, Urbancorp Realty Developers Inc. (URDI), was unable to provide its share of the funding requirement on the OMP project since its main shareholders, Urban Bank Inc. and Urbancorp Investments Inc. were placed under receivership. As a result of the merger between UBI, UII and Export and Industry Bank (EIB), EIB is now the majority owner of URDI.


SIMPLICITY takes centerstage in Tina Periquet's interpretation of modern design

MARTHA Orosa utilizes the fusion of the Asian aesthetic married with touches of modernity in a beautiful homey and comfortable studio setting.

'Chicharong tahong' makes market debut

By Carmela Reyes
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF MALOLOS—Bulacan, famous for its *chicharong baboy* (pork crackling) and *chicharong balat ng tilapia* (tilapia skin crackling), is now offering an alternative snack to patrons of local delicacies.

Chicharong tahong, cracklings made from mussels, made its debut during a food fair that presented 30 Tatak Bulakenyo products to the public in early September.

Chicharong tahong or tahong chips was created by members of the Women@Work Development Multi Purpose Cooperative Inc. based here.

Remedios Cruz, a former government employee who founded the cooperative in 2002, introduced the tahong chips to cooperative members.

Cruz says the cooperative introduced women in her community to livelihood, education and entrepreneurship activities.

The tahong chips come in 150 and 400-gram canisters and are sold for P35 and P70, respectively.

ALING Remy of Women@Work with her staff shows how the mixture of ground 'tahong' and its other ingredients are flattened, cut and fried. CARMELA B.REYES

Cruz says their regular customers include various resorts and restaurants in Bulacan and Pampanga, shop owners in bus terminals, and office and hospital canteens in Metro Manila and Olongapo City.

Their cooperative earns between P5,000 and P8,000 a week selling tahong chips and other products like spicy fish crunch, fish teriyaki, sweet and spicy tamarind and peanut crunchies.

Cruz says the Christmas season gives their cooperative brisk sales as orders from various offices pour in.

The WWDMPCI has 137 registered members who contribute P20 to P500 as capital to finance and run their organization and their food business.

She says the cooperative's seven regular staff members earn an average of P2,000 a month each in producing their products.

The cooperative plans to develop food products that will be marketed by each Bulacan town.

Cruz says the City of Malolos would market tahong chips.

The group is now starting to prepare a product derived from bangus cultured in Hagonoy town.

Earlier, Fisher Farms Inc., a subsidiary of FeedMix Nutrition Specialist, introduced the cholesterol-free chicharong balat ng tilapia.

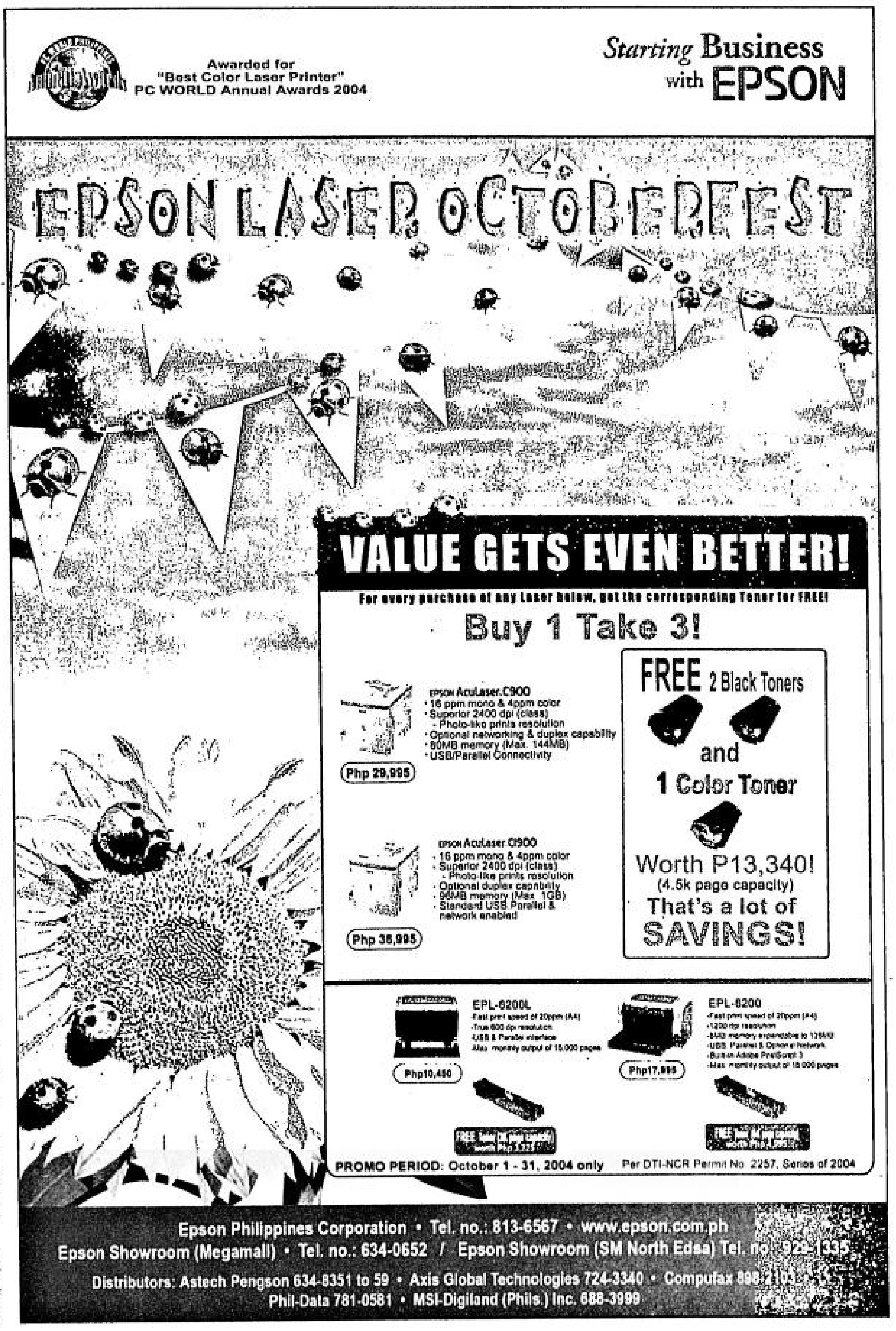
Noel Malibiran, a Fisher Farms official, says they are now distributing chicharong tilapia to restaurants in Bulacan and Metro Manila.

For several years now, the towns of San Miguel, Baliuag, Sta. Maria, Bocaue, San Rafael, and Guiguinto have been known for their chicharong baboy.

The other products under the "Tatak Bulakenyo" are atsarang dampalit, atsarang ampalaya, atsarang papaya, sweet macapuno, sweet langka, sweet garbanzos, vinegar nectar, tomato jam, bagoong ålamang and bagoong isda.

Other products are tinapang tilapia, catfish fillet, lengua de gato, polvoron de pinipig, chocolate drink, native kakanin, pinipig de leche, cassava cake, sukang Bulacan, fruit juice drink, honey bee products, bottled sardines and pandesal de Baliuag.

Gov. Josefina de la Cruz said the provincial government has asked the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Science and Technology in developing and marketing these products.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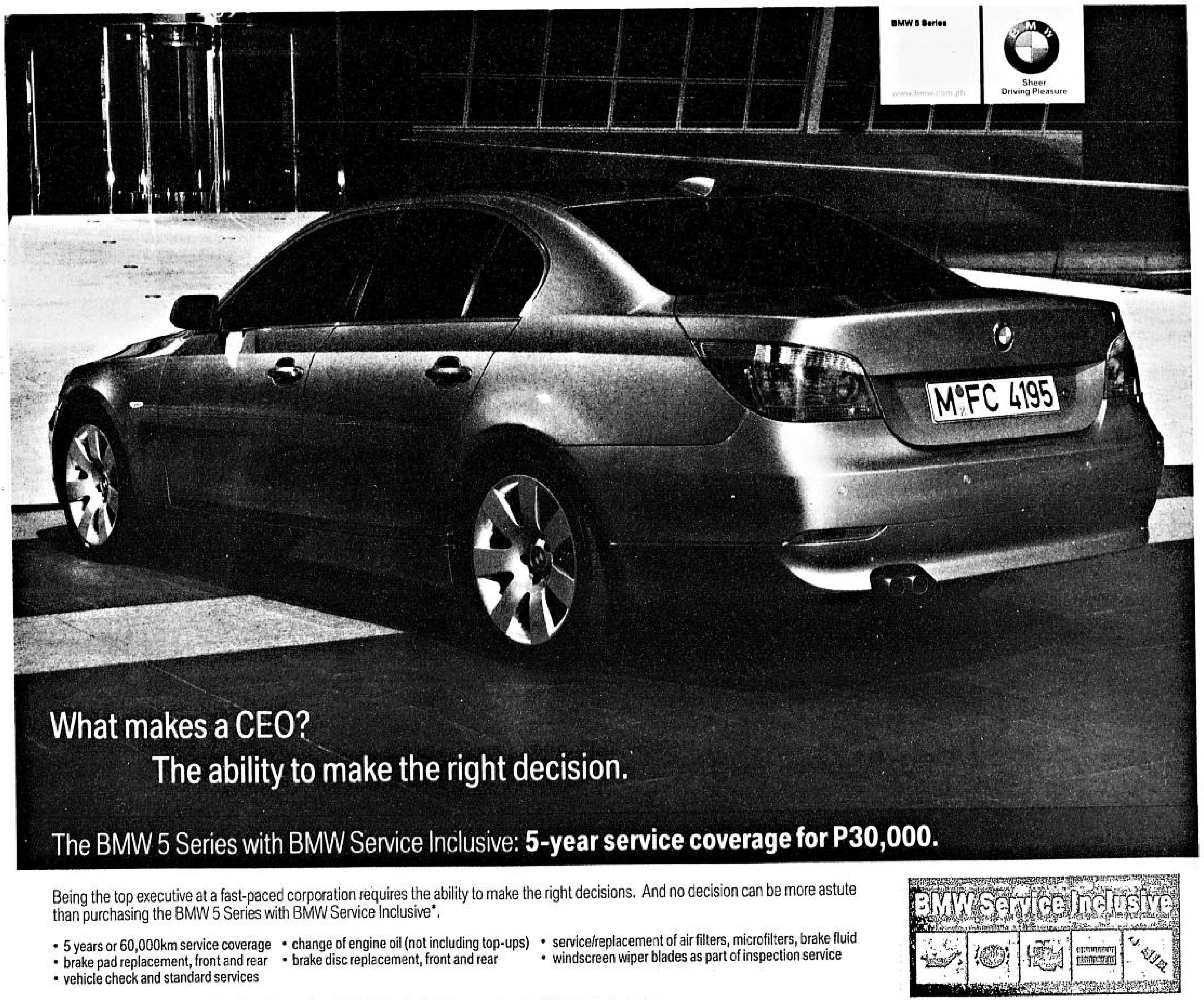

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Brgy Villasis, Santiago City
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UCPB - RICE MILL/ PIGGERY
L.A 21 844sqm
San Dionisio Street, Diamantina, Cabatuan
Minimum Bid Price: P 23,771,000

UCPB - RSDL BLDG
L.A 374sqm, F.A 233.5sqm
Along Rizal Street, Centro Roxas,
Minimum Bid Price P 2,880,000

UCPB -HOUSE & LOT
L.A 487sqm, F.A 180sqm
Escolta Street, Poblacion, Tuao
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,140,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 982sqm
Provincial Road, Bo Ipil, Echague,
Minimum Bid Price: P 700,000

UCPB - PIGGERY
L.A 32 375sqm (Various)
Bo Road, Bo Del Pilar, Alicia
Minimum Bid Price. P 22,745,000

UCPB - INDUSTRIAL LOT
L.A 12,320sqm
Capirpirwan, Cordon, Isabela
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,600,000

ROXAS CITY

UCPB - HOUSE &LOT
L.A 515sqm, F.A 173sqm
Punta Tabuk Roxas City
Minimum Bid Price P 860,000

UCPB - COMML BLDG
L.A 1,500sqm (3 STOREY)
Km 1, Bo Lawaan, Roxas City
Minimum Bid Price P 6,690,000

UCPB - HOUSE &LOT
L.A 853sqm F.A 201sqm
Bo. Dayao Roxas City
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,080,000

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A 275 sqm.
Tangue - Ilaya Rd. Tangue Roxas City
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,430,000

UCPB - AGRI - LOT
L.A 109.999sqm
Bo Agojo Capiz
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,850,000

ILOILO CITY

UCPB - RICE MILL
L.A 48,218 sqm (VARIOUS BLDG)
Bo. Sambag, Municipality of Zarraga
Minimum Bid Price. P 11,200,000

UCPB - AGRI - LOT
L.A 13,144 sqm
Bo Calinog, Poblacion Lawod, Calinog
Minimum Bid Price. P 1, 560,000

UCPB - PENSION HOUSE
L.A 704 sqm (DILAPIDATED)
Along Fuentes and Do Gulle Street, Brgy San Agustin City
Minimum Bid Price P 6,336,000

UCPB - AGRI - LOT
L.A 4,000 sqm (10 TITLE)
Mun. of Jordan Gumaras Island
Minimum Bid Price. P 1, 980,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 983 sqm (OLD HOUSE)
Dona Francisco Village, Jaro
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,190,000

UCPB - AGRI - LOT
L.A 28 410 sqm
Prov Rd Guinobatan, Leganes
Minimum Bid Price. P 7,740,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 4,431 sqm.
Prov Rd. Brgy Agutayan, Sta. Barbara
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,430,000

UCPB - AGRI - LOT
L.A 54,431sqm
Bo. Agutayan, Sta BarBara
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,430,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 1,000 sqm.
Brgy Baldoza Lapaz
Minimum Bid Price: P 850,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 5,536 sqm.
Molo-Arevalo Blvd.,
Brgy Sto Niño Sur, Arevalo
Minimum Bid Price: P 4, 575,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 254sqm, F.A 176sqm
Bankers Village IV Quitin Salas, Jaro
Minimum Bid Price. P 765,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 499sqm
L J Ledesma Subd Jaro
Minimum Bid Price P 750,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 315sqm.
Don Francisco Village, Jaro
Minimum Bid Price. P 686,900

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 300sqm, F.A 161sqm
Gran Plains Subd. Jaro
Minimum Bid Price. P 868,068

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 578sqm.
Fajardo Subd. Jaro
Minimum Bid Price: P 635,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 1,804sqm, F.A 195sqm
Guanco St Arevalo
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,965,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 448sqm, F.A 132.50sqm.
Fajardo St, Jaro
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,010,000

UCPB - RAW LAND
L.A 35,141sqm
Bo. Carvazana, Calinog
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,635,000

CEBU CITY

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 228 sqm, F.A 211.85
St Jude Acre, Bulacao,
Minimum Bid Price. P 1, 976.718

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 2260sqm F.A 878sqm.
Talisay
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,722,278

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 2,919 sqm, F.A 172sqm
Lawaan 1, Talisay Cebu
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,768,770

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 440sqm.
Along Road Lot No 1, Espina Village
Minimum Bid Price: P 4,933,743

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 1,150 sqm.
Bo Of Sangi, Lapu-lapu City
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,600,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 524 sqm, F.A 204sqm
Nichol's Heights Subdivision, Guadalupe
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,342,555

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 250 sqm
Southo hills Subd. Bo. Tisa
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,120,000

UCPB - RAW LAND
L.A 37,940sqm
Brgy. Busay
Minimum Bid Price: P 26,187,700

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 201 sqm.
Espina Village, Edma Subd.
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,406 556

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 697sqm, F.A 118 sqm
Bo. Lipata Minglanilla
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,370,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 186sqm (unfinished home)
Lingkakang Subd. Horshoes Hills Subd
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,187,200

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 300sqm, F.A 292sqm
Monterroyo Compd Bamlad Mandaue
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,010,000

DAVAO CITY

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 768sqm
Palm Drive, De Jesus Subd Bajada
Minimum Bid Price. P1,920,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 190sqm
Northwestern Side, Unnamed Rd
Minimum Bid Price. P189,453

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 283sqm
North Western Side, Unnamed Road
Minimum Bid Price: P 282,186

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 654sqm
Belisano Heights, Lanang
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,520,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 600sqm
Purok Waling- waling (Macasero) Tagum
Minimum Bid Price. P 350,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 179sqm
Dona Paz Subd Sasa
Minimum Bid Price. P 430,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 300sqm, F.A 235sqm
Everly Hills Subd., Bankerohan, Davao City
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,830,000

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A 195sqm
Quimpo Blvd , Davao City
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,950,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 488sqm, F.A 348sqm
Royal Pines Subd , Matina
Minimum Bid Price P 4,535,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 3578sqm
Km 7 Bo. Talomo, Talomo
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,118,200

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 1043sqm. (5 titles)
Diamond Village, Lanay
Minimum Bid Price: P 850,647

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 863sqm, F.A 219sqm
Avenida Santos Ave. Nova Tierra, Lanang
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,020,000

UCPB - COMML LOT
L.A 7977sqm
C P Laurel Ave San Roque
Minimum Bid Price P 183,389,999

BACOLOD CITY

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 175 sqm.
Brgy Estefania,
Minimum Bid Price: P 290,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 1400sqm
Lot 10 & 11 Garden Ville Subd
Brgy. Tangub, Bacolod City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,330,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 997 sqm, F.A 273sqm
Kametal Drive, Brgy Bata,
Minimum Bid Price P 2,130,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 921 sqm. Ware house
Ramylu Village, Brgy, Tangub,
Minimum Bid Price P 1,160,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 606 sqm
Banahaw St Brgy Villamonte,
Minimum Bid Price P 1,150,000

UCPB -RSDL LOT
L.A 1200sqm
Rosario Heights Subd., Taculing,
Minimum Bid Price P 960,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 1785sqm.
Heights Subd., Barangay Taculing,
Minimum Bid Price. P 3,010,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 558sqm, F.A 185sqm
Circumferencial Rd, Puentebella,
Minimum Bid Price P 1,040,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 438 sqm.
Gardenville Subd , Brgy Tangub,
Minimum Bid Price: P 330,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 780 sqm, F.A 325sqm
RHO & PHI Street, Greensville Subd.
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,530,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 2170sqm (2 STOREY)
A Luna & Plaridel Street, Silay City
Minimum Bid Price P 2,610,000

UCPB - RSDL LOT
L.A 1000sqm
Marapara Hts Bo Bata
Minimum Bid Price P 1,500,000

UCPB - SCHOOL
L.A 1,372sqm, F.A 414.39 sqm
La Paz St. La Carlota City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,090,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 362 sqm, F.A 171sqm
Malabo St Bo Villamonte
Minimum Bid Price P 1,470,000

UCPB - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 359 sqm, F.A 192sqm
Jesusa Hts Subd Bo. Estelanta.
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,230,000

QUEZON

UCPB 609 - RSDL LOT
L.A 8,477sqm
Diversion Road Mun. of Tayabas
Minimum Bid Price. P 12,650,000

UCPB 610- HOUSE & LOT
L.A 360sqm, F.A 241sqm
No 19 Bolvia St Betterliving Subdivision, Brgy. Isabbang Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 1,600,000

UCPB 611- RSDL / WARE HOUSE
L.A. 224sqm
Along Enriquez St Poblacion Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price P 3,110,000

UCPB 612 - RSDL / WAREHSE
L.A 240 sqm, F.A 483.35sqm
Purok Matahimik, Cotta Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price: P 2,250,000

UCPB 613 - COMML LOT w/ Structure
L.A. 1,508 sqm
along National Road, Brgy. Iyam, Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price: P 5,265,000

UCPB 614 - RSDL LOT
L.A 180sqm
San Isidro Subd.,Gulang-gulang, Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price: P 470,793

UCPB 615 - COMML BLDG
L.A. 75sqm, F.A 134 64sqm
along Enriquez St Bo 4
Minimum Bid Price: P 1,895,000.00

BATANGAS

UCPB 602 - GOLF RSDL LOT
L.A 1,056sqm
Mt. Malarayat Estate, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price. P 3,346,918

UCPB 603 - POULTRY, PIGGERY
L.A 37,117sqm, (w/d house)
National Road, Brgy. Tangob, Padre Garcia
Minimum Bid Price: P 6,631,200

UCPB 604 -RSDL LOT
L.A 444sqm
Palmridge Pointe, Talisay
Minimum Bid Price: P 3,889,400

UCPB 605 - RSDL LOT
L.A 120sqm
Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price: P 178,020

UCPB 606 -HOUSE & LOT
L.A 4741, F.A 330 81sqm
Along National Road, Bo Santiago
Minimum Bid Price. P 4,219,000.00

UCPB 607 -RSDL LOT
L.A 764sqm
Lodlod Road, Purok 6 , Batangas
Minimum Bid Price P 483,131

UCPB 608 - HOUSE & LOT
L.A 886sqm (BUNGALOW)
Bo Road, Tiambo, Taysan
Minimum Bid Price P 2,010,000

UCPB 609 -PIGGERY
L.A 6 655sqm, (3 houses)
Brgy San Felipe, Padre Garcia
Minimum Bid Price P 6,631,200

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HOUSE & LOT

QUEZON CITY

Cubao 2concrt hses 9122194

FILINVEST & KAMUNING nr Market 9269729 Mila

PROJ 4 3BR 1TB FA81m² LA168.15m² P2.8M Vic 8903461 loc 27

Proj.8 2Story S.Pool 1028m² Theresa • 4567356 Direct Buyer

Roxas QC 11.6M 09189109010

SIKATUNA VIL 81Mahiyain St. 68 Maningning St.
124 SCOUT CASTOR 5BR5TB 9210256; 9219967; 9220547

RIZAL

COTTONWOODS-ANTIPOLO
Big Lawn Near Clubhouse
Corner Lot with Basement & Veranda 4BR 4TB Titled LA565m² Joe Tan 637-5148 0921-2002078 0917-4157766

T&CEV 3M 216m² 6479907Rush

Vill. East Cainta nr. Makro 3brm 3tb Maids Grge FA136m² LA75m² Marble RFO P1.28M P480T Down P14T/mo. 931-1313 0919-4902166 439-0775 0917-9239217

OTHER AREAS

A PRIME SUBD 2 bdrms 1T&B LA 170m² P1.3M Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

OTHER PROVINCIAL

HSE & LOT FA140sqm FA90sqm 3BR 3TB w/ATTIC IMUS CAVITE DANG (02)5217637

BATANGAS

AYALA PROPERTY AT STO TOMAS BATANGAS 364 SQM. HOUSE N LOT B4 3M NOW 2.5M NEG BAL 2 YRS TO PAY W/O INT - 0918-9424538

BULACAN

STA. MARIA LA38.5 FA22 Pag Ibig down 5T M/A 2,378 4563409 09217377851 EMMA

CAVITE

CAMELLA HOMES BACOOR LA 137m² FA198 9M² 5BR P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc 27

LAGUNA

Ayala Sta. Rosa San Jose Village Phase6 P1-2M Margie 3619953 ; 4478831

METROVILLE SUBD LA 122m² 2bdrms 1T&B FA61.28m² P1.2M Vic 8903461 loc 27

MILAN CAMELLA HOMES 3Stry FA2 10m² P1.9M VIC 8903461 LOC 27/25

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.1M C5 Nr The Fort
10T/mo. or 4Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mktl 0917-8313226

2.9M up @ D FORT
1-3BR&PHOUSE FF 3YRS TO PAY NO INT T-0920-9249907

D FORT P7.3M RFO 09177441292

MKT NR AYALA
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/2-2 1/2tb/grge P3.265M up 8903461 loc 34

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1 & 2BR Ready for Occupancy 2 years to pay Call 410-8395

ONE MCKINLEY
THE FORT 2BR, GOLF COURSE VIEW RFO END OF THE YEAR 4 INQUIRIES 0918-9424538

MANILA

MALATE P3.9M PKG 09177441292

NR UST, ESPANA TOWER 6873372 0917-8102903

SN ANDRES MANILA Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.365M up 8903461 loc 34

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANILA

Twnhses nr DLSU - Taft Ave LA42 - 48Sm 1Car P2.5M UP 562-3531 / 0917- 5272166

MANDALUYONG

Ayala Hms. 6M LA120 FA88 4BR 2TB 532-8648 • 0927-7172835

Cityland Shaw 1br 0917-5213838

Ortigas 1Br 1.4M 2Br 4.1M 3BR 5.5M RFO 0%Terms 7248512 ; 09228456225

Paragn Plaza Cash Terms 1&2br 9125847 09178426416

SHAW BLVD P2.1M 09177441292

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1.6M ORTIGAS AVE. RESORT-TYPE, 1st Class 2-4BR P13T/ mo. or NoDP or 0% Bess • 0917-5234223

VVERDE 3BR 1.8M T9124323

QUEZON CITY

2.2M East Frvw09274584454

★B/new 3BR3TB mds rm 2cgrg 4388754 09228530530 159 Sct. Limbaga Ext

KAMUNING Thse 4br3tb LA90 P3.2M 2sty w/attic 9265052

Luxurious Low 500T-12M Furn 9415641/0919-4452435

NOVA Thse 2BR / 1TB / Laun LA38 FA76 0922-8050207

Valencia Hills 1BR 634-1212

VV6 CORTIJOSA GREENMEADOWS AVE FA260sqm 3BIG BR BIG ATTIC 4TB MDS RM 2CG SPOOL SECURITY CALL - LYN/ROSE 5237671 CHAT/CHRIS/NELLY 6331874

WEASTGATE PLAZA Studio 1BR 2M-3.5M 6341212

BAGUIO

WRIGHT PARK PLACE BAGUIO 163m² 3BR Call Cecile 872-5204 to 05

LOT

KALOOCAN

METROCOR 9269729 Mila

Rainbow Village 5 LA 216m² P3,473/m² Vic 8903461 loc 25

LAS PINAS

METROCOR 254sqm @P4700 near SM 800-4771

MAKATI

McKinley Hill P8.5M 09175213838

PALANAN 248SQ5.5M 5251545

MANILA

Corner Lot (PRIME) Tondo Manila E-mail: satmla@cam.org Mr. Mateo

MANDALUYONG

Lot Edsa 400m² 845-3731

PARANAQUE

4th ESTATE 240m² 7158833

BICUTAN 600m² P6.5T/m² w/income 37T/mo 0917-8265680

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4.054/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

Rosario 1500 / 3000m² 845-3731

Nr UP 200m² @ 7T/m² 6453731

VV-5 PRIME LOT 504M² 45T/M² NEG 0917-8905747

QUEZON CITY

1968sqm Comml cor Kings Point Subd. 0917-3704556

Jordan Plaines 9269729 Mila

Nr UP 200sq 7T 1sm 6453731

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QUEZON CITY

RUSH SALE 120SQM NEAR HWAY Q.C. 7317487 760,TH

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★100% TAGAYTAY ★ 240m²-up 3,300/m² 125T D/P 6T Mo Best Loc nr Taal Vista 6609372

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1903 sq-meters-Commercial Lot with 501 meters opening along National Highway
DIRECT BUYER ONLY
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RIZAL

RICHMOND EXEC VILL COMMERCIAL Lot 200sqm P6500/m² 6356003 / 6337371

Richmond Subd. Angono Rizal 240m² 3,000.00/m² 687-7546

OTHER AREAS

BAGUIO 129m² 0922-8050207

TAGAYTAY nr ROTONDA w/ view 600; 517; 489; 374sqm P7000/sqm T-6337601/03

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240m² P3,125/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BATANGAS

RANCHO VISTA SUBD LA613m2 P2,284/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

BULACAN

11,663sqm along North Super hi-way nr North Petron Mrs Asuncion 044-6922259 Mrs Ortiz 0927-8906507

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

CAVITE

DON BOSCO EXEC HTS LA128m2 P2,900/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA149.30m² P6,028/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

PARKPLACE SUBD LA120m² P5,750/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

ST. CHARBEL DASMA nr SM 371m2 P2,650/m2 Vic 8903461 loc 27

LAGUNA

365SQM BRENTVILLE SUBD home of International Sch Binan Call 09185054471 or 4930415 JEPOY

Com'l Binan Along Nat. Hway 2238m² bside PT&T Rush P8,500/m² 8311158

SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m2 LA240m2 Vic 8903461 loc 25/27

BUILDING

BLDG. BINAN (049) 4115614

MEMORIAL LOT

HERITAGE MEM'L FORT BONI Lawn•Garden•Estate Lots Cash or Installments Mars 875-4095 / 09175259510

HMLAYAN 12 LOTS 772-5587

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LIPA SAN BENITO 1.6HA, 2.5HA, 3.8HA 09166820877 / 09193173881

POULTRY/PIGERRY ON 1.5HA Teresa, Rizal • 0917-8340519

Residential Farm Estate Cavite No Down 10yrs Titled 714-4916 • 0920-2308106

BULACAN

SAN MIGUEL BUL 4000m² P180/m² Vic 8903461 loc 27

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

VARIED AREAS

BANK ACQUIRED ASSETS FOR SALE
3 Sty comm'l bldg: LA 163.53 sqms.; FA 163.53 sqms; corner Kamuning Road & K-E St., Kamuning, Quezon City Selling Price: P5,000,000.00

Vacant resl lot: LA 637 sqms: along J.P. Rizal St. Poblacion, Oton, Iloilo Selling Price: P564,487.25

1 sty. resl hse; 2 warehouses & maids quarter; LA 230 sqms.; No. 235 cor. Sta. Rosa & Clark St., Poblacion Norte, Paniqui, Tarlac; Selling Price: P800,000.00

2 sty. apartment: LA 111 sqms.; Along San Roque Ext. Roxas City, Capiz Selling Price: P2,500,000.00

Vacant resl lot: LA 364 sqms: Blk 3 Lot 6, Hills of Mala Alta, Antipolo City Selling Price: P1,211,800.00

2 sty. resl building: LA 150 sqms.: No 539 San Diego St. Sampaloc, Manila. Selling Price: P2,730,000.00

Vacant commercial lot: LA 554 sqms; Along J.P. Laurel Avenue General Santos City Selling Price: P3,980,000.00
For inquiries, please call: 8115797 (Hotline)

FACTORY/WHSE

Nr Shaw Garment FactOry Layout 1500sqm 6341212

MANILA

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1,446m² up 1.3 has w/ Hi ceiling whses Pier, Tacale, Off, Sta Ana P15,000.00/m² Ermita,Mla. @ P35,000.00/ sqm neg. Lucena @ 1,000/m² 8.8ha T# 564-2622 • 0918-9014661

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BATANGAS w/ Improvement FLOWING WATER 1HA 09166820877 / 09193173881

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ZAMORA PASAY 8314114

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ALONG MARCOS H-WAY 4BR 2TB FF SUBD. P30T 6459624

PARANAQUE

BET. LIVING CANADA 7722160

BICUTAN NR. SM 5BR 3TB 2F TEL BONG 09178571089

RIZAL

3BR SQ Nawasa H2O 1Grge 10T/mo Vermont Park Antipolo Tel 645-8756

CONDO/TWNHSE

Nr St Scho/La Salle Ivory Cond All FF w/aircon/ref StudType 20sqm 7.8T w/attic 35sqm 9T 2BR 50sqm 15T 5257710•5218058 •0918-6007506

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO, TWNHSE

MAKATI

Asia Tower1BR Nicely Furnished Parking 09166100408 / 8525204

MAKATI-LEGASPI Village 2BR w/pkg 18+ T0916-7855507

Mkt. Studio P8.5 2BR P13.5 Tel / prkg FlexTerm 8979417

NEW STUDIO / Coml / 2BR 6.5Tup 1672 Dian St. Mkti 843-9418•0918 9390355 Rose

NEW TWNHSE/3 UNITS/3FLRS /4BRS W/GRGE MULTI-USE: OFC /CLNC/RES/ 1103 DEL PAN ST. MKTI 872-3425 0916-3135877 Ed

NR ST.BENILDE ST SCOLASTICA, LA SALLE NICE AFFORDABLE SECURE 1BR, 2BR, STUDIO 4057135 NICK

MANILA

3STY 15K 563-5549

BAYVIEW TOWER III 3BR FULLY FURNISHED OVERLOOKING ROXAS BLVD READY TO OCCUPY CALL 3625090

PARANAQUE

WESTMONT-Sucat 1br,Prkg, tb, a/c, nr clubpool 09272107234

PASIG

Valle Verde 2 Condo 1-2br Call 632-7515 • 631-9087

QUEZON CITY

EASTWOOD GARDEN LEVEL Upgraded Furnished 2BR3TB Maids Rm Parking 9299571 • 09196084784

BRAND NEW 3BR maids rm 3TB 115sqm 1st St. cor. Gilmore Ave. New Mla. QC 28K Violy/ Tintin 5277616

APARTMENT

GOV FORBES APT UP/DOWN CALL OFF HRS T-5233907

HONDREZ APT UP/DOWN CALL OFF HRS T5233907

APARTMENT

LAS PINAS

•New 2br Grge 6T 7220943

MAKATI

1&2BRM W/GARAGE STRONG WATER 8902561 8902894

2BR Tel 7507931/8821752 Meding/Pam

STUDIO W/PARKING 6589342

MANILA

4BR up n dwn 2garage #126 Bldg.3 Jesus St. Nagtahan Pandacan Manila 9264526

RUSH 3BR Big grge 7152251

Studio 6.5TKundiman Samp7818907

PASIG

2BR 633-1040 Capitol Teta

QUEZON CITY

2BR nr Sch Holy Spirit Fern Col 9318375 ; 7229657

2BR w/ GRG Proj 2 9224087

8,9,10,11T-Fema Rd ProjB 9262180

Brnd new studio type Proj 2 4342604 / 0919-2876641

UP Vill nr Park 2BR2TB solo grg P12500 09164563734 2C

VARIOUS AREAS

4Dr nr Mkt Med 0917-5405281

SAN JUAN

A.LUNA ST 2story spacious P9T/mo good loc'n 6461603

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

WANTED TO LEASE

QC • MANILA • MAKATI Condo Direct Lessor 292-6137

ROOM & BOARD

120 MLA 7118679/4113301

BF PQUE 8275345/8257524

Kamias Rd 250 / Day / 4267157

Kamias Rd 3.5T Nice 426-7157

MAKATI

Mkt. Male FREE UTLTY / Prkg / FF Nice P5.5 up Flex Term 8906374

BEDSPACE

LADY BED SPACER 4415002

Pasay Male 1.5th 550-0254

BUSINESS RENTAL

MALATE 3T M²
Single Storey Commercial Bldg. 843-7633/37; 843-7539

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1.4% Cash Loans 0910-4208843

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

BUSINES DOCTOR 524-3197

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L BUSINESS PERSONAL Gigle Ernie 8903461 loc 25/23

LOT FOR LEASE

SSHWAY West Cupang grge for truck/bus/wrehse 09175332613

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

• Mkti Viaro 21m² 7.5T 7220943

P.FAURA COR M.ADRIATICO 25m² & 20m² CALL OFF HRS T-5233907

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL

4STRY BLDG. IN PQUE VERY NR IN SUCAT INTRCHGE 8268913 / 8259550

QUEZON CITY

ACROPOLIS NICE & ELEGANT 3BR 3TB w/ Big Den 432sqm P28M 6337601-03

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

98 BMW 316I 620T 09175224000

HONDA

1996 Hond Accord, Red M/T 1st Owned,Good Cond. Must See. 888-6192

93 Accord 73Tkms P245T 94 Civic 72Tkms P190T 0920-9047636 Both M/T 5 Ending

93 ESI 15mags, A/C, CD, A1 Cond. P195T Neg 09178236194 6408448

'97 Accord VTIS
Must See, Orig. Owner, Black, Nice & Loaded P410k Negotiable 0917-8931170

98 Crv A/T 560T 09176915602

MERCEDES

'86 230E 124 A/T 926-5052

MB '90 260SE A1 480Th Tel. 810-9074

MITSUBISHI

'01 LANCER GLS 2400516

'90LANCER A/T 926-5052

NISSAN

03 Sentra-Slightly-Used P465T Loaded A/T 724-1373

'04Patrol 2.2M 0917-8417772

96 Terrano, Exec. Series M/T, 4WD, Patrol Mags Fresh, A/C, All Power 340T 8016935 / 8054997

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BIG BIG SALE!!!
Financing Available
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ISUZU FARGO 260,000
CAR VAN 240,000
CHARIOT 290,000
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•Fully Finished Units
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PERFECT LOGISTICS PHILS INC
40 Sumulong Hway Antipolo
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TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Land Cruiser Surf Terrano Space Gear Serena Delica Town-Lite -Hi Ace Safari Vanette RVR Estima Elf Canter etc. Finance T-In 832-8659 / 0920-2981098

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

BKHOE kobelco 3639012 Ed

LOWBED 70Ton 09277902546

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

• BENZ Jaguar Lincoln 6825922

CARS/VANS/BRIDAL 8969956

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

Hi-Ace B-new Cars 7297378

P800/L3 9135710 / 4333682

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CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 533-8254

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o taking car 7860183-84

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/out taking car 6567685

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

ARTWORK

Bencab Marcel 09154029077

BILLIARDS

Sale/Rental/Servce 8014494

BUY/SELL

CAP/TPG/PRUD Educ2528373

HEALTH & BEAUTY

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

ACUPUNCTURE TRAINING Contact 426-9041 Phil Ctr for Trad & Asian Med

PLAY - 12 Angry Men University of Asia & the Pacific Ortigas Oct. 5, 8, 9, 7:30PM Telengtan Hall 0917-5337997 Ian

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late Martin & Amanda Jugo has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs per Doc. #67, Page #14, Book #18, Series of 1998- before Notary Public Atty. Eduardo Ungco, Jr. of Pasig City (Oct. 3, 10, 17, 2004)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Luisa G. Zaragosa who died on November 12, 1989 was extra-judicially settled among her heirs before Notary Public Atty. Edmodio Belen Bariga of Las Piñas Metro Mla. Per Doc. 179 Page No. 36 Book No. 34 Series of 2004 (PDI Oct. 3,10,17, 2004)

NOTICE OF LOSS

99 shares owned by Ruben L. de Leon was lost issued by Security Bank Corp. represented by Stock #0000052170. If no contest received new certificate will be issued. (PDI-Sept 19, 26 & Oct.3, 2004)

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earnextranow.com code:atb2004 8531008 09178901851 Arlene

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top-nutrition-business.com

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HAIR SALON FRANCHISE SM Megamall 0917-8398638

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AIRCON TECH 821-4080

Cashier; Waiter; Kitchen Staff Call 9241040 4343244 Al

Geodetic Engineer W / Min 3 Yrs Experience Vertical Structures Send Resume To 957 4A Kalayaan Guad. Makati City Fax 7525347

MECH'L ENGR / COORDINATOR 821-4080 • 546-3124

FEMALE

ACCOUNTING
Graduate 22 to 27 years old Please bring your Resume in person 11 2nd Ave, Cubao QC or Call 7051174 look for Joy

Couk 8, Yaya 4, H'girl 3, Laba 3,5 Nurse M'wife 8510250

NANNY 4 US w/ Visa 9124323

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

FEMALE OFFICE STAFF
20-25 yrs. old
atlst 1 yr exp
Coll grad/comp. lit.
Apply at 9-B Rd. 15 Proj. 8 QC

LADIES Wanted to train as AUTO Technician 22-30 y/o HS Grad 146-B Congressional Rd QC Ask for Cristine

$$ TRAVEL & MONEY $$ 8953427

MALE/FEMALE

CALL CENTER OFFICER 9162808

CAREGIVER T-5280747

Corporate P/T Aero Instr. Send CV / Call 632-6325

Exp Cook 09178972074 9126385

Exp. Rest Cook & Barmaid BF P'que 0919-5521961

For Hiring: DISHWASHER, CHOPPER/CUTTER and Part time ACCOUNTANT/AUDITOR with experience in restaurant 60 to Suzhou 116-C Scout Lozano corner Tomas Morato, Quezon City

Hiring REGISTERED NURSES, MIDWIFE and PHARMACIST Please Call 9417320; 9485553; 9978819

Inocencio School Montessori Playskool, 3 Dona Andrea I Bernal St Rosario Pasig needs BSE, BSEED, BS PSYCHO Tel.# 640-2009 • 642-0254

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21-35 y.o. College Grad with or w/o Exp • #0918-9292703

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- Self-motivated, aggressive, persistent
- Fast learner, can convince other people
- With sales experience an advantage

Interview Days : Sept. 27 (Mon) and Sept 28 (Tues)
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Look for : Rizaldy Acazar
TELECOMMERCE CORP.
27th/F Raffles Bldg. Emerald Ave.,
Ortigas Ctr., Pasig City

Please bring resumé with picture and valid ID

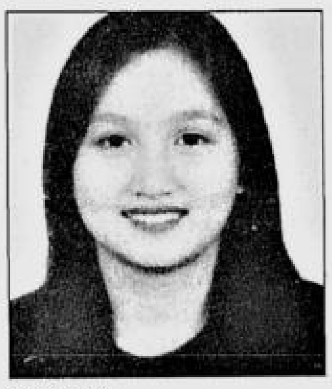
www.go2canada.com
FREE ASSESSMENT

NOTICE OF LOSS OF CERTIFICATE OF STOCK

Notice is hereby given that Stock Certificate No. # 235326 covering two thousand one hundred seventy eight (2,178 shares of stocks of the Bank of the Philippine Islands Incorporated, in the name of Atty. Agapito V. Sanchez was lost by Masco Express Service Corporation while in transit for delivery pursuant to formal declaration/affidavit of its President Gloria Masina duly registered as Doc. No. 354; Page No. 72; Book No. III; series of 2004 in the notarial registry of Atty. Federico Florendo, Jr. notary public for and in Las Piñas City, Metro Manila, Philippines. Any person who may be in possession of said certificate of stock is hereby requested to present or notify any of the following 1. The corporate secretary of the Bank of the Philippine Islands Incorporated 2. Masco Express Service Corporation with office address at Block 5 Lot 11, Casimiro Townhomes II, Admiral Road, Las Piñas City Metro Manila, Phil. 3. BPI Stock Transfer Department, Bank of the Philippine Islands, Ayala Ave., Makati City, Metro Manila, Phil. Failure to present said certificate of stock will cause its cancellation and another shall be issued in lieu of the one lost one (1) year after this publication pursuant to the provisions of the corporation code.

(PDI – Sept. 26 & Oct. 3 & 10, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that **CARMELA G. ALVIAR**, whose picture appears on this page and whose last known address was No. 130, Apartment D, Purok 6, San Guillermo St., Bayanan, Muntinlupa City, was terminated by **BUSINESS BOX, INC.** and is facing a Qualified Theft case under Criminal Case Number 02-324 at the Regional Trial Court, Branch 256, Muntinlupa City.

(PDI - Oct. 3, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Ilocos Sur
CITY OF VIGAN

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

October 3, 2004

The Local Government Unit (LGU) of Vigan City invites consultants to pre-qualify and to bid for the Consulting Services for the Development and Installation of a GIS Based Spatial Data Integration and Thematic Mapping System

a.	Submission of letter of Intent and Pre-qualification document	Nov. 1-8, 2004
b.	Pre bid conference	Nov. 15, 2004
c.	Opening of Bids	Nov. 29, 2004

Pre-qualification document may be secured at the Office of the BAC Chairman.

All bids shall be accompanied with a bid bond equivalent to 2.5% of the total bid price in the form of cash (Phil. Currency) Manager's Check or Surety Bond issued by GSIS or any accredited Insurance Company, payable to the office of the City Treasurer, Vigan City.

Bid Documents will be issued to pre-qualified bidders upon payment of non-refundable amount of P10,000.00.

All bids shall be submitted to the office of the City Administrator on November 29, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. after which will be open in the presence of BAC and bidders of their authorized representatives.

All particulars relative to Bidding Processes shall be governed by the Rules and Regulation of RA 9184 and its IRR.

The city government reserves the rights to reject bids or waive defect contained therein and accept an offer most advantageous to the government.

BID & AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI – Sept. 26 & Oct. 3, 2004)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS branch
is open to serve your Classified Ads
requirements.

MANILA BRANCH
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 836 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
Call BABES, ERIC or GRIG at TEL. NO.: 527-3342 / 522-4406

NEW OFFICE
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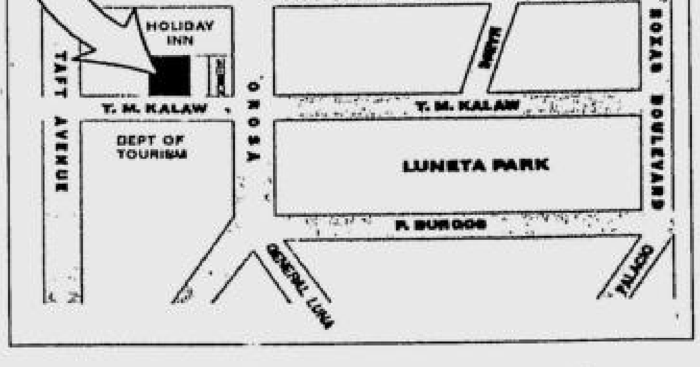

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A. Store Supervisor

- Graduate of any 4-year Business Course
- Computer Literate, knowledgeable in basic MS Office applications
- Female, at least 5'4" in height
- 24 to 28 years old, with pleasing personality
- With experience in Retail Business
- Willing to work under pressure
- Willing to be assigned at any SM Branches

B. Stock Clerk & Cashier

- Female
- Knowledge in Basic Internet
- Knowledge in MS Office (Word, Excel)
- Knowledge in Windows Command
- Knowledge in Basic PC Trouble shooting
- Willing to be assigned at any SM Branches

C. Visual Merchandising Specialist

- Male/ Female, not over 35 years old
- Must be energetic and active
- Can plan and implement designs on short notice
- With at least two years hands-on experience in design implementation
- Must be willing to travel to provincial mall sites
- Experience in working with a retail chain, an advantage

D. Freelance graphic artist

- male/ female
- proficient in Adobo, Corel, 3dmax, etc.

E. MIS Staff

- graduate of 2 yr. computer course
- knowledge in basic trouble shooting, network implementation & NT4
- knowledge in Seagate Crystal report optional
- experience both in hardware & software installation
- experience in retail business

F. Accounting Clerk

- female
- accounting graduate.

Interested Applicants may submit their comprehensive resume to:

Chris Sports Plaza
3/F K-Plaza Building
#18 Kamuning Road, Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE
PROVINCIAL GENERAL SERVICES OFFICE
Provincial Capitol, Dipolog City
Tel. # (065) 212-3561 Telefax # (065) 212-6492

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Provincial Government thru the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) hereby invites eligible manufacturers, suppliers and or distributors to apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the supply of goods categorized as follows:

		APPROVED BUDGET
a.)	Construction/Electrical Materials	P 1,705,725.10
b.)	Spare Parts/Tires/Automotive Supplies	2,771,260.00
c.)	Agricultural Supplies and Equipment	200,166.97
d.)	Office Supplies	399,415.50
e.)	Office/Other Equipment	1,549,284.00
f.)	IT Equipment	658,222.00
g.)	Drugs/Medicine	3,497,848.00
h.)	Medical/Laboratory/ Dental Supplies and Equipment	4,026,800.00
i.)	Oil and Lubricants	422,884.50
j.)	Food Stuff	459,100.00

Schedule of Activities:		Date	Time
1.)	Issuance of Bid Documents	October 4-13, 2004	
2.)	Pre-Bid Conference	October 14, 2004	10:00 AM
3.)	Opening of Bids		
a.)	Construction/Electrical Materials	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
b.)	Spare Parts/Tires/Automotive Supplies	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
c.)	Agricultural Supplies and Equipments	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
d.)	Office Supplies and Equipments	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
e.)	Office/Other Equipment	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
f.)	IT Supplies and Equipments	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
g.)	Drugs/Medicine	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM
h.)	Medical/Laboratory/Dental Supplies and Equipments	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM
i.)	Oil and Lubricants	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM
j.)	Food Stuff	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM

All activities shall be held at the Provincial General Services Office, Capitol Building, Dipolog City, unless announced otherwise.

Interested parties may inquire from the Secretariat – Bids and Awards Committee, Provincial General Services Office (PGSO), Capitol Building, Dipolog City regarding eligibility requirements. Bid Documents shall be issued upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Five Hundred (Php 500.00) Pesos.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects or informalities found therein or to accept the offer found to be most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) EMMANUEL S. LADERA
OIC – Provincial General Services Officer
Chairman – Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Oct. 3 & 10, 2004)

AUCTION

www.henrybutcher.com

UNUSED GENERATING SETS; ELECTRICALS; POWER/HAND TOOLS; OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT; MISCELLANEOUS

ON: Tuesday 5th October 2004 - 10:30 A.M. Sharp

GENERATING SETS: DENYO 45 kva, 25 kva Silent Type Unused, MAZE 10 kva; SHIN KOBA 6.5 kva Air Cooled; HONDA Portable Generators
ELECTRICALS: Magnetic Contactors; Circuit Breakers; Low Voltage Wires; Extension Cords; Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter Adapters; GE Controls Boxes; Flourescent Lamp Mixtures; Constant Current Regulators; Surge Protector Outlets; Heat Sinks
POWER/HAND TOOLS: Tamping Rammers; Routers; Planers; Drill/Grinders Sets; Combination Wrenches; Pipe Wrenches; Adjustable Wrenches; Pliers; Hand Riveters; Screw Drivers; Hammers; Saws; Gardening Tools; Extension Ladders; etc.
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Clerical/Guest Chairs; Steel Filing Cabinets; Steel Lockers; Office Partitions; Computers; Printers; Electric Typewriters; etc.
MISCELLANEOUS: Huge Qty. Plastic Pallets; (2) 20' Insulated Container Vans; HONDA DIO (2002) / HONDA GYRO(X) Scooters; Submersible Pumps; Electric Motors; KIA CD-5 Spoilers; HONDA Fog Lamps; Car Seat Covers; REVO Bull Bars; Triple Beam Balancers; Air Conditioners; Rechargeable Spot Lights; etc.

At: Henry Butcher Auction Center - c/o Hilon Compound -
Bo. Mayapa, Canlubang, Laguna
Viewing Date: Mon. 4th Ocotber 2004 - 9AM-5PM & morning of sale day
Refundable Deposit: Php10,000 (upon registration)

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Qualifications:
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- Preferably male, at least 2 years experience in recruitment and selection
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- Knows how to use office software
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Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

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Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

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PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

Interested suppliers/dealers are invited to apply and bid for: **a.) Hand Carried Ultrasound; b.) Pulmonary Function Test Machine; c.) Repair & repainting of exterior walls and soffits of Hospital and Medical Arts Bldg.**

The approved budget for this bidding is **a) P1.05 million; b) P2.0 million; c.) 5.0 million.**

The winning bidder shall deliver the requirements within ninety (90) calendar days upon signing of contract.

Interested bidders must not be related to the head of the procuring entity or any member of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) or BAC Secretariat either by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree.

Prospective bidders may secure eligibility requirements and bid documents from **the BAC Secretariat office, 8th Flr., MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City** after payment of a non-refundable bidding fee of **a) Two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty (P2,550.00) pesos; b.) Three Thousand Five Hundred (P3,500.00) pesos; & c.) Five Thousand (P5,000.00) pesos.** For any inquiry, please call BAC Secretariat Office at Tel. No. 925-24-01 loc. 3888 ask for Ms. Noemi Nocasa.

I. **PRE-BID CONFERENCE**
The pre-bid conference shall be on 05 October 2004 at 1:30 p.m., Staff Lounge, 2nd floor, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

II. **SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**
The legal requirements for eligibility of prospective bidders must be personally submitted by the duly authorized representative on or before 12 October 2004, 4:00 p.m., BAC Secretariat Office, 8th floor, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

III. **OPENING OF BIDS**
Bids of eligible bidders will be accepted and opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives on 26 October 2004, at 1:30 p.m., Pacemaker Room, Basement, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

The BAC reserves the right to reject any and all bids waive any defects or informalities therein, or accept any bid/s or offer/s which it may consider advantageous and beneficial to the government.

24 September 2004

(Sgd.) **MARCIANO F. GATDULA**
Vice Chairman, BAC

(PDI-Sept 26 & Oct. 3, 2004)

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Southern Luzon Technological College Foundation, Inc.

in partnership with US-based law firm is in need of

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Compensation Package is open for negotiation. Email your resumé to: **mesrlani@aol.com.** Interview on October 12, 2004 at 5th Floor RCC Center, Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education (DepEd)
SECONDARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
(SEDIP)
National Project Management Office (NPMO)
5th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex,
Meralco Ave., Pasig City

INVITATION TO BID

The Republic of the Philippine through the Department of Education is a recipient of an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in the amount of JPY7,210 million to finance the Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of the loan will be utilized for eligible expenditures for the new construction of a **Two-Storey, 4-Classroom Building with Science Laboratory, Faculty Room and Toilet located in Bacong NHS at Sacsac, Bacong, Negros Oriental.**

JBIC requires that bidders and contractors as well as the DepEd, under contracts funded with JBIC ODA loans, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of the such contract. In pursuance of this, JBIC: (I) will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question and (II) will recognize a contractor as ineligible, for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract funded with JBIC ODA loans if it, at any time, determines that the contractor has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing another contract financed by JBIC ODA loans or other Japanese ODA.

Bidding is open to all Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) registered contractors or joint venture contractors with valid license, general building in category and eligible to enter into a contract based on award. The approved budget for this project is **Five Million Sixty-six Thousand Pesos (P5,066,000.00).**

Bidders may obtain further information and acquire the bidding documents from the office of:

The BAC Chairman
Bids and Award Committee (Office of the Municipal Engineer)
Municipality of Bacong, Negros Oriental
Tel. No. 035-4240303

The complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders starting **September 27, 2004** until 5:00 p.m. of **October 15, 2004** upon submission of a Letter of Intent to the above office and payment of a non-refundable amount of P1,500.00 to the Municipal Treasurer of Bacong.

Pre-bid conference shall be conducted on **October 18, 2004** at 2:00 p.m. to be held at the BAC Office (Office of the Municipal Engineer), Municipality of Bacong, Negros Oriental.

Submission of bids together with all the documents required in the bid documents must be delivered to the aforesaid venue not later than 10:00 a.m. of **November 5, 2004** at the BAC Office (Office of the Municipal Engineer), Municipality of Bacong, Negros Oriental. All bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of all the bidders or their legally authorized representatives.

(Sgd.) **JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ**
Undersecretary for Administration and Finance

(PDI - Sept. 26 & Oct. 3, 2004)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
'AMANG' RODRIGUEZ MEDICAL CENTER
Marikina City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY TO BID

The 'Amang' Rodriguez Medical Center, Marikina City, through its Bids & Awards Committee (BAC) invites duly accredited / licensed individuals / sole proprietorship, partnership and corporation to apply for eligibility and to bid for Waste Disposal Collection Service, Medical Gases and Laundry Service.

BUDGET:

- Source YEAR 2005 MOOE
- Amount Waste Disposal .... P 747,120.00
- Medical Gases 6,000,000.00
- Laundry Service 1,080,000.00

ELIGIBILITY SCREENING

- **Eligibility Requirements** Obtained from : ARMC-Accreditation Committee, Cashier Section
- **Submission of Eligibility Statements** : To the Accreditation Committee not later than 10 00 in the morning on **October 7, 2004**

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS/BID DOCUMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE BIDDERS

- Obtained from BAC Secretariat (c/o ARMC Supply Office Telefax No. 941-6841) Marikina City on **October 8, 2004**
- Non-refundable fee FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PhP 500 00) in cash

PRE-BID CONFERENCE

- Date / Time . October 15, 2004 / 9 00 AM
- Place ARMC Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Marikina City

SUBMISSION AND OPENING OF BIDS:

- One sealed envelope with the name of the contract to be bided, the name of the bidder in capital letters, addresses to the BAC, and marked "Do not open until (the date and time of the opening of bids)"
- Deadline of submission November 8, 2004
- Opening / Date November 8, 2004
- Time 9 00 am
- Place . Conference Room 2nd floor

APPLICABLE LAW/RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- Executive Order # 9184
- The BAC, ARMC reserves the right to reject any of all bids, to waive any required formality in the bids received, and accept the offer most advantageous to the government.
- The ARMC assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss incurred in the preparation and submission of the eligibility statements and bid, it does not guarantee that an award will be made.

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL :

(Sgd.) RICARDO D.G. LUSTRE, M.D., M.H.A.
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION :

(Sgd.) ROLAND L. CORTEZ, M.D., M.H.A., CESE
Medical Center Chief II

(PDI - Sept. 26 & Oct. 3, 2004)

Store cum Marketing Manager

A foreign retailing firm (first store in Cabanatuan City) dealing with home appliances is looking for a dynamic, self-propelled and highly motivated individual who is willing to take challenges and treats creating new markets as accomplishment. Interested candidates should have the following personal qualities and qualifications:

[redacted]

- Relevant education and at least 5 ~ 10 years of experience in relevant field.
- New store setup.
- Able to analyze market conditions and implement favorable strategies to capture, maintain and boost market share.
- Good public relation and managerial skills.
- Creative and receptive to new ideas.
- Able to work under stress.
- Able to design and implement market-preferred installment plans for different income groups.
- You should be in your 30s~40s.
- Familiar with import and custom procedures.

The company offers good remuneration package proportional to performance.

Please submit the followings via email to The Recruiter, **resume@elbon.com.sg** with the following:

i. Resume stating your experiences, strength and achievements. Attach a recent photograph (non-returnable).
ii. Assuming you were running a small store selling new-brand home appliances, write an essay on how you will, step by step stating your basis and strategies, drive this new brand to become a well-known brand in the Philippines within 2~3 years. Focus on effective strategies with facts and datas.

Note: If you are only looking for a rice bowl, do not apply. This post is for those who have passions in the field of marketing, sensitive to market conditions, good understanding of customer behaviors, a strong urge to see and enjoy seeing his/her plans work and, dare to make decisions.

Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
POEA Building, Ortigas Avenue
cor EDSA, Mandaluyong City 1501
Website www.poea.gov.ph
E-mail info@poea.gov.ph
Hotlines 722-1144, 722-1155

ISO 9001:2000

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITB NO. 006-04

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites qualified companies to apply for eligibility and to submit a bid proposal for the development of the POEA E-Link System.

Qualified bidders for the development of the POEA E-Link System should be a System Integrator who have implemented or is currently implementing a similar system on the same platform of similar magnitude or scale.

The bid proposal shall consist of (1) a proposal for the three systems, of which an integrated solution is most welcome, and (2) the price proposal wherein cost for hardware is separate from cost of systems development and integration.

The approved project fund is Fifty Six Million Pesos.

The particulars are as follows:

PARTICULARS	DETAILS
1. Project Description/ Location	An electronic processing system for OFWs that will facilitate completion of required documents for processing of OFW contracts and a system that will monitor departure and arrival of OFWs.
2. Availability of Pre-Qualification Documents and Terms of Reference (TOR) and Other Bid Documents	Pre-qualification Documents, Terms of Reference and other Bid documents may be secured from the Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat c/o Mr. Reynaldo E. Cabrera 5th Flr Blas F. Ople Building, Ortigas Ave. cor EDSA, Mandaluyong City Tel. No. 722-1166 Starting Sept. 27, 2004 to Oct. 8, 2004 from 9.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M.
3. Submission of Letter of Intent	October 19, 2004
4. Pre-Bid Conference	October 20, 2004 10:00 A.M. Conference Room of Deputy Administrator for Management Services, 5th Flr Blas F. Ople Building
5. Submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bids	Please submit Eligibility Requirements and Bids not later than November 5, 2004 10:00 A.M. at the Conference Room of Deputy Administrator for Management Services, 5th Flr. Blas F. Ople Building, Ortigas Ave. cor EDSA, Mandaluyong City
6. Opening of Bids	November 5, 2004 10:00 A.M. Conference Room of Deputy Administrator for Management Services
7. Awarding of Bids	November 15, 2004

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are contained in the Terms of Reference (TOR) available for issuance to interested bidders after payment of a non-refundable amount of ELEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED PESOS (P11,200.00). Only Bidders who have purchased the Bid Documents shall be eligible to attend the Pre-Bid Conference and participate in the Bidding.

Criteria for eligibility check, examination and evaluation of bids and post-qualification shall be non-discretionary pass/fail criteria. Only eligible bidders shall be considered for bid awards.

Sealed bid must be accompanied with a bidder's bond equivalent to two and one half percent (2½%) of the total bid price either in the form of Cash, Manager's Check, or Surety Bond issued by GSIS callable in demand.

POEA reserves the right to reject any or all bids and/or part thereof without offering any reason, to waive any required formality of defected therein, and accept the offer as the most advantageous to the government.

The POEA assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss incurred in the preparation and submission of the eligibility requirements and bid, and it does not guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **CARMELITA S. DIMZON**
Deputy Administrator for Management Services
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI-Sept 26 & Oct 3, 2004)

LB (Land Bank) Realty Development Corporation

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All contractors and/or suppliers, registered with Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) and/or Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and/or Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and an **AUTHORIZED CONVERTER of 3M Philippines** with experience in manufacturing, construction and installation of Indoor and Outdoor Signage's/Advertising or projects of identical scope of works and technology, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and to submit their bids for the supply and installation of various LBP ATM SIGNAGE's nationwide.

AREAS	EST. AMOUNT (P)
1. NCRBG	1,250,000.00
2. NCLBG	481,000.00
3. REGION I	491,000.00
4. SLBBG	1,091,000.00
5. VBG	1,316,000.00
6. MBG	1,321,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS	5,950,000.00

Prequalification requirements may be obtained from the Purchasing Unit at the Land Bank Realty Development Corporation, 30th Flr. Land Bank Plaza, 1598, M.H. del Pilar corner J. Quintos Sts., Malate, Manila. Issuance of Prequalification Forms will start on October 04, 2004.

LBRDC reserves the right to change the cost estimates, the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference, submission of bids and date of bidding. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBRDC to invited bidders.

LBRDC likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to the company.

For further details, please call **Eng'r. Jaime S. Mendoza/Jerry Milton Minguillan/Aries L. Mendoza/Alicia A. Dela Peña** at 405-7169 / 405-7134 / 405-7135.

(Sgd.) **CHAIRMAN**
Committee on Bids and Awards

(PDI-Oct 3, 2004)

ASIA PACIFIC RH DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Philippine NGO Support Program, Inc.
Building Capacities for Reproductive Health

JOB VACANCIES

The Philippine NGO Support Program (PHANSuP), Inc. aims to empower community-based organizations and other non-government organizations in integrating HIV/AIDS, family planning and adolescent reproductive health initiatives into other reproductive health issues and social development concerns for the overall development of their respective client communities.

We are looking for highly motivated, competent professionals who are committed to make a positive difference in the reproductive health sector in the Asia Pacific region. We are urgently in need of one (1) Training and Development Specialist. We are also inviting applicants to fill up the following future positions: Communications, Advocacy and Publications Officer (1); and Organization Development Facilitators (2).

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (1)

The Applicant must have/be:

At least three (3) years work experience in Reproductive Health (RH) training and development • Fully knowledgeable of various learning systems and methodologies for young and adult trainees • Experienced in training needs analysis, module design, session plan preparation and training management and delivery • A degree in any of the following: human resource development, sociology, community development, organizational development, development communications, public health, development management or related fields. A master's degree is preferred. • A team player and must possess skills in good interpersonal relationships • A good oral and written communication skills; and • Proficient in MS Office applications particularly in the preparation and publication of training brochures and manuals.

He/she will:

Design and implement trainings, workshops, conferences and other related activities • dentify training and other technical assistance needs of target clients • Network with partners to ensure availability of training resources • Undertake marketing of training services; and • Perform other related tasks as may be assigned.

COMMUNICATIONS, ADVOCACY & PUBLICATIONS OFFICER (1)

The Applicant must have/be:

At least two (2) years work experience in communications, publications and advocacy related to Reproductive Health (RH) • Experience in writing and editing articles, case materials, annual reports, monographs, manuals, guidebooks, etc. • Familiar with social marketing tools and techniques • A degree in any of the following: development communications, journalism, or related fields. • Skills in graphic designing and layouting • Excellent writing and oral communication skills • A team player and must possess skills in good interpersonal relationships • Proficient in MS Office/Pagemaker applications particularly in the preparation and publication of newsletters, annual reports, monographs, etc.

He/she will:

Prepare an organizational communications and advocacy plan • Prepare media releases, brochures, newsletters, annual reports, monographs, marketing collaterals, etc. • Coordinate production/printing of all communication materials • Network with media organizations and with other entities (GOs/NGOs) • Update and maintain the APRHDC infobank and library; and • Perform other related tasks as may be assigned.

ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT FACILITATORS (2)

The Applicant must have/be:

At least two (2) years work experience in program/project development and management preferably related to Reproductive Health (RH) • Degree in any of the following: Community Development, Sociology, Social Work, Business, and other related fields. • Knowledgeable in using PCM/logframe and ToP tools in project design, monitoring and evaluation • Knowledge of the principles of and practices in organization development • Full understanding and appreciation of the nature and operations of social enterprises • Familiar with organizational strategic and operations planning processes • Experience in providing technical assistance to develop the capacities of NGOs/POs • Excellent writing and oral communication skills • A team player and must possess skills in good interpersonal relationships • Willing to travel to remote areas in the Philippines • Ability to effectively interact with local NGO/PO leaders and staff • Proficient in MS Office applications particularly in the preparation of project proposals and reports, work plans and budget.

He/she will:

Prepare organizational development plans ensuring the inclusion/integration of RH issues/concerns in the development agenda • Closely assist client organizations in packaging, implementing, monitoring and evaluating their respective projects using highly participative tools and approaches • Network with local entities to mobilize support for client organizations • Prepare and submit project reports • Perform other related tasks as may be assigned.

PHANSuP, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Please send a cover letter, resume with a 2x2 photo, sample of work done, and two letters of professional recommendations from former employers or professors (if no previous employment) to: The Executive Director, Asia Pacific RH Development Center, PHANSuP, Inc., 2/F Brickville Condominium, 28 N. Domingo St. New Manila, Quezon City. Deadline of submission of application is on October 10, 2004. We will reply only to shortlisted applicants. Previous applicants need not apply.

LEGEND INTERNATIONAL RESORTS LTD.

A prestigious casino/hotel located at Subic Bay Freeport Zone is currently in need of a

CASINO SURVEILLANCE MANAGER

The successful applicant will take charge of a department responsible for ensuring the enforcement and compliance of gaming policies and procedures; directs, plans and organizes the prevention of fraud, scams and gaming misconduct; and shall take charge of investigations and quick resolution of fraud or scam cases that may occur.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum three (3) years experience in Surveillance or Casino management
- Minimum ten (10) years gaming knowledge
- Proficient in CCTV system management and operations
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Strong interpersonal skills and analytical ability
- Overseas casino experience preferred
- Mandarin proficiency is an advantage

Interested parties may send their resumés to:

Head of Human Resources
LEGEND INTERNATIONAL RESORTS LIMITED
2F Oak Building, Legenda Suites
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Zambales 2222
Fax No.: (02) 813-5670
Email: hrd@legendanet.com

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ECE OR COMPUTER ENGINEERING GRADUATE. EXPERIENCE IN STRUCTURED CABLING, VOICE AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS, SPECIALIZING IN PABX SYSTEM IS A PLUS.

Qualified applicants may send resumè or apply personally at:
Unit 1104E 11/F East Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre
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Manila Memorial Park: The Plus Factor

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Ever the pioneer and innovator in the industry, the **Manila Memorial Park** once again leads the way with its new offering: the **Memorials Plus.** The first and largest memorial park in the country is now making its vast experience and resources in the field available to its loyal patrons, by making "memorial services more memorable and stress-free."

In this most emotional and volatile time in their lives, Park patrons will be allowed to relax and focus on the more important facets of the memorial service because the Park will take care of all the nitty-gritty details.

These details, after all, shouldn't take another second of their precious time.

As part of a special package, **Memorials Plus** covers such thoughtful amenities and services as: catering, flowers, balloons, photo and video coverage, music, interment band, and horse-drawn carriage.

Memorials Plus seeks to provide whatever poignant detail that would "make an interment or cremation ceremony truly unforgettable."

Memorials Plus can also be availed of for death anniversaries, birthdays, 9-day and 40-day commemorations, and other special dates.

Without a doubt, **Manila Memorial Park,** after 40 success-filled and award-winning years in the industry, has earned a well-deserved reputation for excellence in terms of service and customer satisfaction.

For more information and for arrangements, please get in touch with any of the **Park's Memorial Servicing Officers. Call: 893-8370 or 8938374 to 77 loc. 228**

From children, **Jose Mario** and **Edita Cruz, Marilyn** and **Manuel Ibañez, Shirley Ann** and **Hector** and **Fabbee Fabros**; grandchildren **Hazel** and **Ben Pracht, Jay** and **Boogie Lagasca, Jem, Mark, Maureen** and **Ian Camaclang, Marsha, Donnie, Dax, Leslie, Chris** and **Bryan** and great grandchildren **Jessica Pracht** and **Timmy Camaclang.**

Dra. Alicia Cailipan Buñag

(Widow of **Dr. Primo Buñag**)

of Infanta, Quezon and Los Angeles, California
July 10, 1918 – August 26, 2004

MODESTA MATIAS MORALES

Now peacefully rests in the infinite Grace and Goodness of the Lord on the 30th of September, 2004 at the age of 93.

Her bereaved children **Ben, Roy, Zita, Det, Bong, Kit & Emil**; in-laws **Dolfo, Grace, Odes, Nini, Olive, Piling, Baby**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers, sisters and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Royal Chapel of Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat Rd., Parañaque City.

Cremation will be on Tuesday, October 5, 2004 after the 12:00 p.m. Mass.

BGEN. ARSENIO "Seniong" R. SILVA AFP (RET)

Philippine Military Academy Class of 1955
Former Chief of Air Staff, Philippine Air Force

Peacefully joined his Creator on September 29, 2004 at the age of 71

His loving wife **Estelita O. Rogel**; children **Kismet & Steve Smith , Jet & Anne Silva, Apollo & Marsha Silva, Lizette & Frank Sauceda, Arnold & Grace Silva**; grandchildren **Kristine, Jet Bryan, Anette, Patrick, Alyssa, Anthony, Addison, Noelle Marie, Angelica, Amanda** and **Andrea**; his sisters Adelaida, Asuncion, Ildefonsa, and brother Dominador, other relatives, and friends request the pious readers for their prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Philippine Air Force Mortuary, Col. Jesus Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

Necrological services will be held on Wednesday, October 6, 2004, 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of All Nations Church, Col Jesus Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

Interment will be on Thursday, October 7, 2004 at 12 noon at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Metro Manila.

For me to Live is Christ
To Die is Gain! Phil. 1:21

ATTY. ALEXANDER H. BRILLANTES, SR.

Went Home to be with Our Lord on October 2, 2004 at the age of 81.

Dad has always lived a life of service, simplicity and humility according to his favorite prayers, "whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren you do undo Me," and St. Francis of Assissi's "make me an instrument of your peace."

The bereaved family: wife, **Fannie,** and children and in-laws, **Jay** and **Jette, Alex Jr.** and **Lulu, Cathy, Martin** and **Claridette**; and grandchildren **Chicco, Shasta** (†), **John, Lani, Sara, Alexa, Josine** and **Anton,** request prayers of praises to the Lord for Dad's life of service to the Lord and to others through cooperativism and social action.

His body lies in state at the Good Shepherd Parish, Fairview, Quezon City.

Interment to be announced later.

EILEEN 'DIC' CAPISTRANO

now peacefully rests in the infinite Grace and Goodness of the Lord on October 1, 2004 at the age of 49.

Her loving father & mother **FRANK & LYDIA**; sister **LYDIA & MARI**; brother **FRANK III & CHERYL**; nephews **MIKEL, JULIAN, MARTIN, RICKY, LAZLO,** other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the San Antonio Forbes Park.

Interment will be on October 6, 2004 at the Manila Memorial, Sucat after the holy mass at San Antonio, 9am.

ATTY. DEMOSTHENES B. TANOY

February 14, 1946 – October 01, 2004
of Guihulngan, Negros Oriental
Chief Internal Revenue Division – Revenue Operations Group
Department of Finance, Manila

His wife Maricar; children Tanya, Maureen, Dindo, Marc, Alfonso; and sisters Elmira, Gloria, Nelia, Delia, in-laws Vic and Bevs, nephews and nieces request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on October 06, 2004 after the 2:00 PM Mass at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat Parañaque City.

JUAN SOCITO SARMIENTO, SR.

of Virac, Catanduanes and Lingayen, Pangasinan

Peacefully joined his Creator on October 01, 2004 at the age of 79.

His loving wife **FE**, children and grandchildren mourn his passing and wish his eternal rest.

His body lies in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Saturday, October 09, 2004 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate;
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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DEATH NOTICES

RODOLFO "Dikong" P. GARCIA
of Zaragosa, Nueva Ecija & St. Bernard, Southern Leyte

Passed away on October 1, 2004.

His remains lie in state in San Isidro, St. Bernard, Southern Leyte.

Interment will be on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2004 at Hinundayan Cemetery, Hinundayan, Southern Leyte.

FELICIDAD "Ising" CABRERA MUNGCAL
of Guagua, Pampanga

Passed away on Sept. 25, 2004.

Her remains will be flown from Miami on 05 October 2004 and will lie in state at their residence in Maquiapo, Guagua, Pampanga.

Interment will be on Saturday, 09 October 2004 at the Maquiapo Catholic Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

ORLANDO NATIVIDAD ALCANTARA
of San Pablo City and Merville Park, Parañaque City

Passed away on October 1, 2004.

His remains lie in state at Premiere 2 Loyola Memorial Chapels in Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City.

Cremation will follow after the 7:00 a.m. Holy Mass on Monday, October 4, 2004.

> **"...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."**
>
> 2 Corinthians 5:8

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This is to inform the public that **FOREVERGREEN PROMOTIONS & INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CORPORATION** with principal address at #35 Paseo del Congreso, City of Malolos Bulacan is applying for the issuance of license from POEA. The names of incorporators, officers & employees are listed below:

MIRASOL F. RAMOS – Chairman
LENIE R. MAGALLANES – Chief Finance Officer
GAUDENCIO F. RAMOS SR. – Incorporator
GAUDENCIO F. RAMOS JR. – Incorporator
CARMELO F. RAMOS – Incorporator
ATTY. PROTACIO F. CORTEZ JR. – President & CEO
MARIA WINNIE V. YAMAT – Vice President
RUFINO G. VALENZUELA III – Liaison Officer
JULITA C. REYES – Office Staff

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL
Bids and Awards Committee
Capitol Area, Dumaguete City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Bids and Awards Committee of the Provincial Government of Negros Oriental invites all interested bidders to pre-qualify and submit sealed bids for the following requirement, viz:

One (1) Unit Reconditioned Surplus Mobile Rock Crushing Plant

The list of pre-qualification requirements is now available at the BAC Secretariat, Provincial General Services Office (PGSO) Dumaguete City, with Tel./Fax # (035) 225-2433.

The Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on October 14, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at the PGSO while the submission and opening of bids is scheduled on October 26, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. also at the same venue.

The Committee on Awards reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any required formality and award the contract to the bidder whose bid proposal as evaluated by the Committee is the most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) ATTY. ISMAEL P. MARTINEZ
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Provincial General Services Officer

(PDI – October 3 & 10, 2004)

A **multi-billion** manufacturer of processed food products invites prospective candidates for

DISTRIBUTORS

OBJECTIVE:

To professionally handle modern trade accounts sales and servicing, secondary/tertiary accounts distribution, and implement the company's business direction in the assigned territorial coverage.

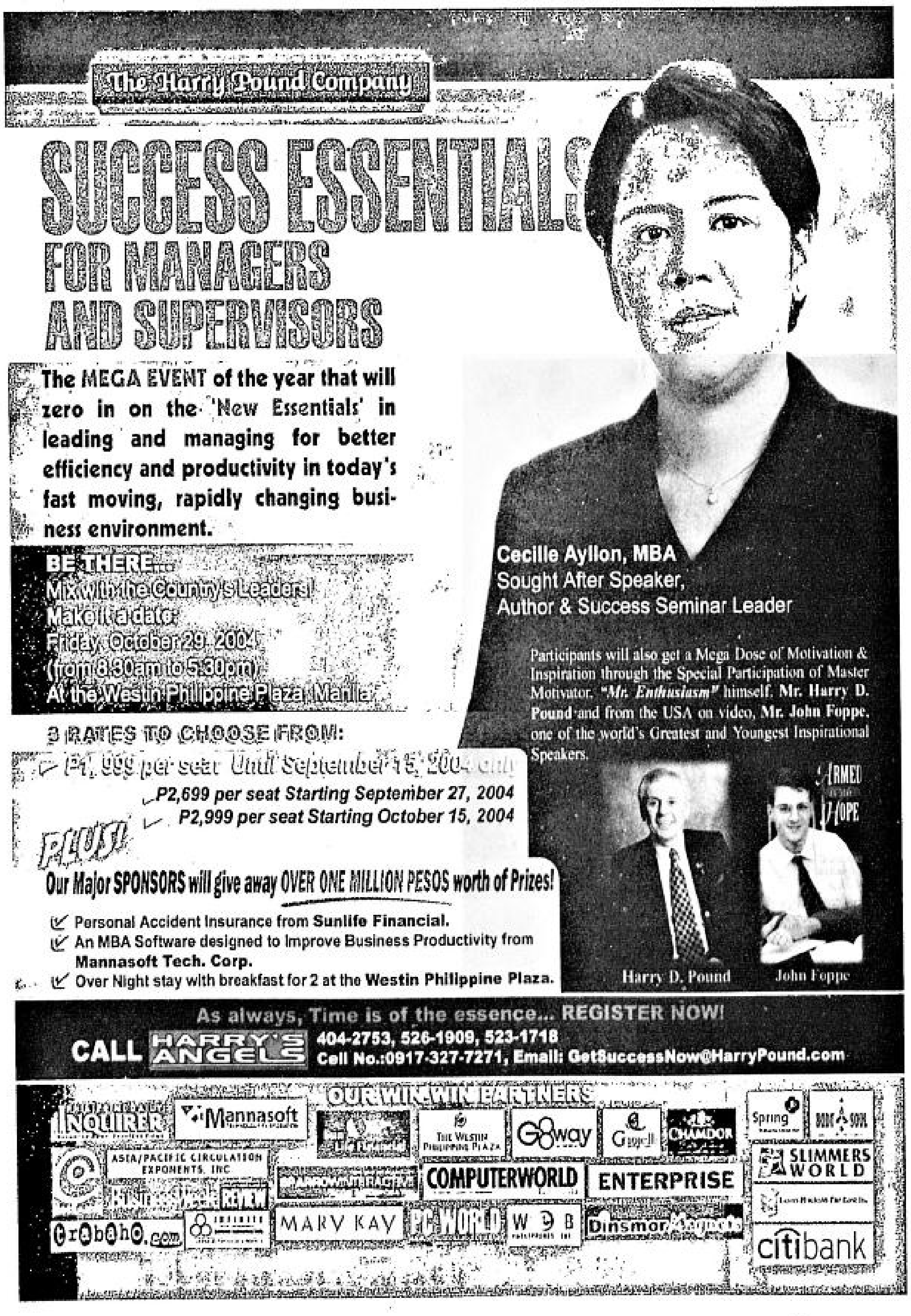
QUALIFICATIONS:

- Has proven track record and business clout in the territory / industry that can directly support sales and distribution efforts of the Company. Must indicate his desired area of coverage.
- Solid years of experience, preferably with companies, dealing with fast moving consumer products distribution.
- Sound organizational leadership and management, core values, and have continuously exhibited strong initiatives with previous / other principals.
- Sufficient financial standing and willing to submit to financial competency and logistics/resource requirement capability verification by the company's Distributor Selection Committee.

A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE AND FINANCIALLY VIABLE DISTRIBUTOR'S SCHEMES AWAIT THE SUCCESSFULLY CHOSEN DISTRIBUTOR.

Applicants are required to express interest through a **Letter of Intent** together with a detailed **Company Profile** and proof of qualifications to the address below **not later than October 15, 2004.**

DIRECTOR of SALES & MARKETING
P.O. Box 1823, Manila



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At the Westin Philippine Plaza, Manila

Cecille Ayllon, MBA
Sought After Speaker,
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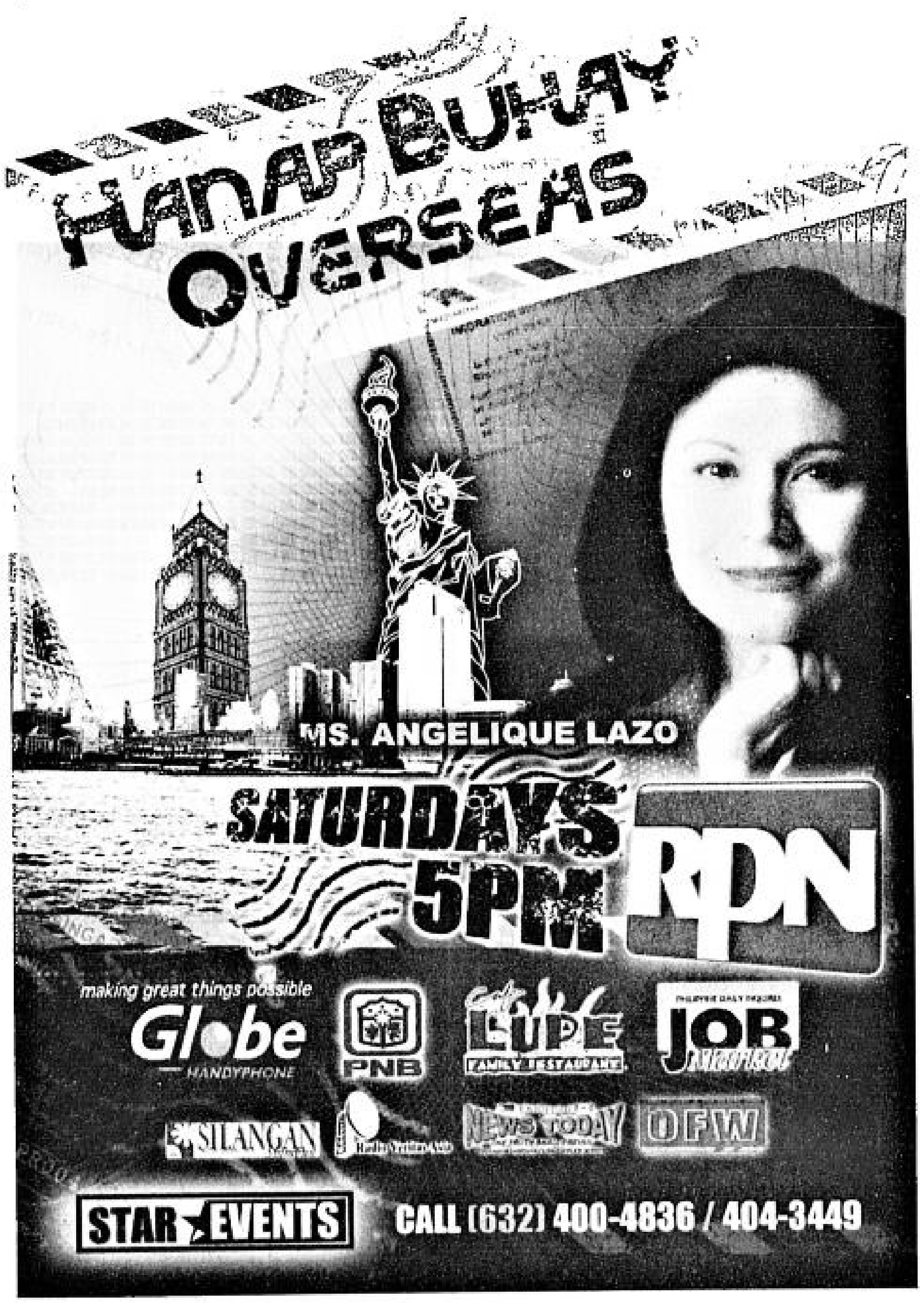

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Sunday LIFESTYLE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2004
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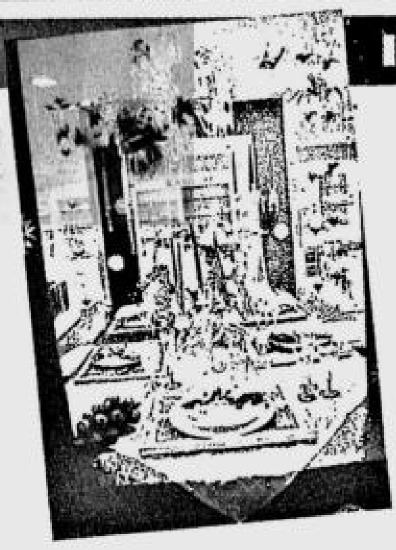
inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)
or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

IN THIS ISSUE

HEAVEN-LY cuisine /C6



FAB party ideas /E2

INNO Sotto's mesmerizing muses, and more /G1

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STRAIGHT GUY
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all i want is in
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Download the Queer Eye Theme ringtone and get the chance to be one of two lucky winners of **₱500,000*!**

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All Things**	Widelife	QUEER	QUEER2	QUEER3
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Slow	Kylie Minogue	N133	T133	LY133
Superstar	Jamelia	N134	T134	LY134
Sunrise	Duran Duran	N135	T135	LY135
Never Coming Home	Sting	N136	T136	LY136
Extraordinary	Liz Phair	N137	T137	LY137
Are You Ready For Love	Elton John	N138	T138	LY138
You Promised Me	Ingrid	N139	T139	LY139
Move Your Feet	Junior Senior	N140	T140	LY140

** The hit single from the Queer Eye soundtrack available in all music stores

Text <code> to 2949 to download tones and lyrics
Ex. Text N137 to 2949 to download "Extraordinary" ringtone.

Text EYE to 2949 for the complete list of downloads.

Text SPOT to 2949 to subscribe to daily funny tips on how to spot a queer guy.

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Rates: Infotext: P2.50; Ringtones: P15; Polytones and Lyrics: P20.

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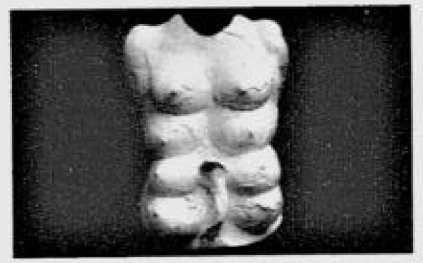
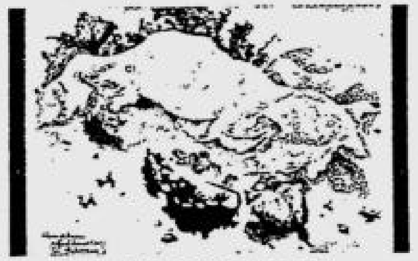
Promo runs from Oct. 3 to Nov. 30, 2004 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5002, Series of 2004

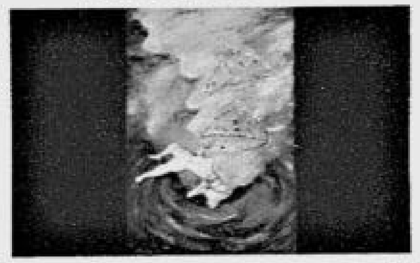
*Promo runs from Oct 3 to Nov 30, 2004 Per DTI NCR Permit No. 2167, Series of 2004

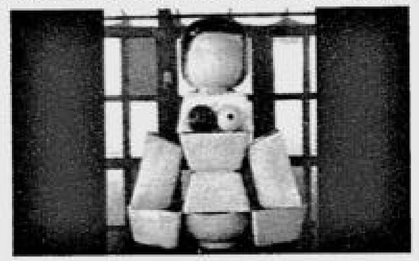

DIANA'S SHIELD

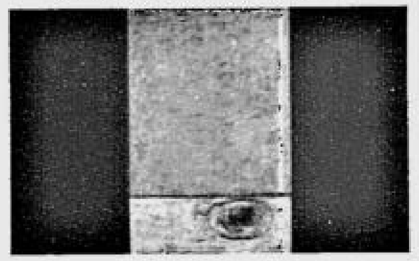
LINKING STRENGTHS

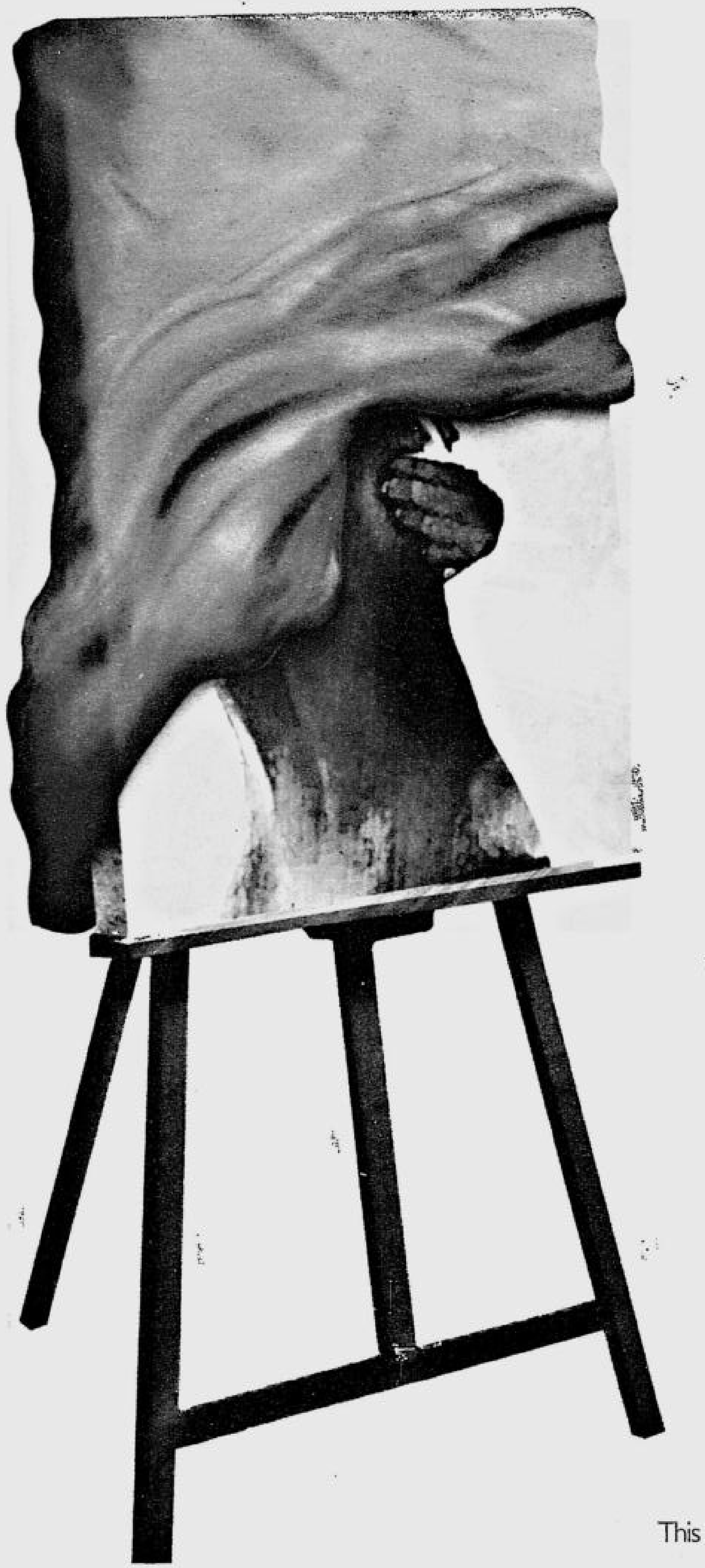
FAITH (A PORTRAIT OF KARA)


LEAVES OF FORGIVENESS


WOUNDED MOUNTAIN, MOUNTAIN OF MYRRH


ALL BRAVE AND STACKED UP


MORE THAN JUST ENOUGH



kiss goodbye to breast cancer

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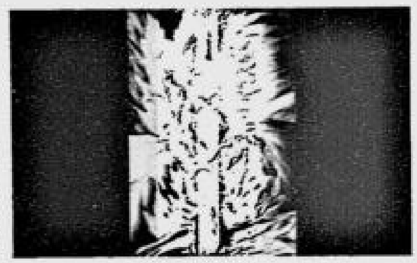
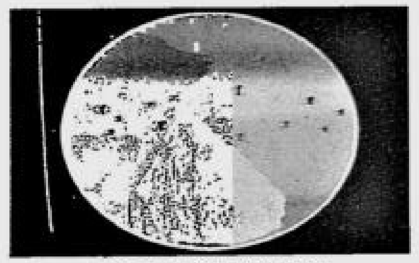
photographs by JUN DE LEON

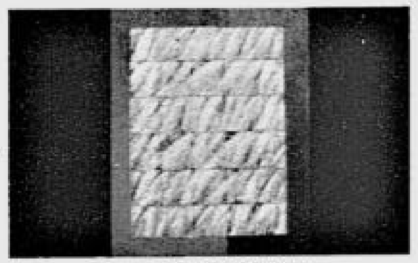
Avon is at the forefront of the fight against breast cancer. For every sale of any Avon Color or Beyond Color lipstick in October, P5.00 will go the PGH Breast Care Center.
Event is strictly invitational. If you wish to support this cause by buying an artwork featured at the exhibit, please call Avon PR at 864-2672 for your invitation.

This event is sponsored by: Philippine Daily Inquirer • Philippine Star • ME Magazine • The Peninsula Manila • Werdenberg


THROUGH THE FIRE

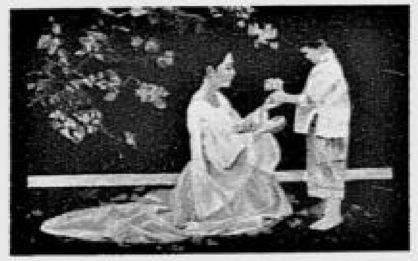
MARANAO HEAD

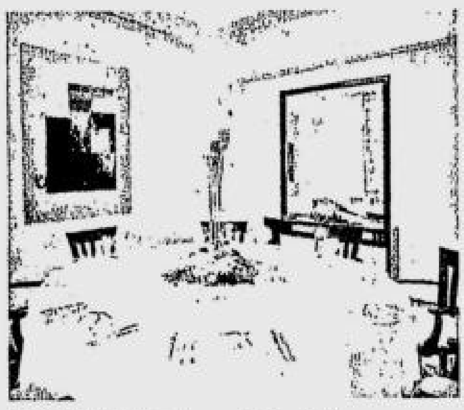

OCEAN DREAM SERIES


STEEL THROUGH FIRE

TILAMSIK

HOPE


CHARITY



BELLEVUE Hotel's new Private Room Package is tailored for business lunches, meetings and intimate family gatherings.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Mileage bonus for frequent flyers

CHINA Southern Airlines, the largest airline in the People's Republic of China, is offering a special 30,000-km mileage bonus to all Sky Pearl Club frequent flyers. The Sky Pearl Club is China's largest frequent-flyer program with more than two million members.

Until Dec. 31, Sky Pearl Club members who reach a certain mileage levels—in addition to their normal mileage—will get a bonus of 30,000 km. Call (8620) 86682000 (Guangzhou) or fax (8620) 86120972. China Southern Airlines connects more than 80 cities around the globe.

Octoberfest promo

TRAVEL to Hotel PonteFino in Batangas City this October and take advantage of its reduced room rates.

Ongoing until Oct. 31, the Octoberfest Slash Price promotion lets you have a room at P 999++ per person, a minimum of two per per room. Triple sharing costs P3,000 net. A fourth person is free of charge. Rates are based on cash payments and available for local residents only.

Hotel PonteFino is at Pastor Village, Gulod Labac, Batangas City. Call 4212058 or 4372103 (Manila) or (043)7233466 (Batangas). Visit www.pontefino.com.ph

Travel Mart winner

DISCOVERY Suites received the grand prize for Best Corporate Booth at the recent 15th Philippine Travel Mart at the Megatrade Hall, SM Megamall.

Organized by the Philippine Tour Operators Association, the event, with the theme "Wow Philippines Shining in Asia," was attended by buyers from Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, United States, Canada, Europe, Russia, India and the Middle East.

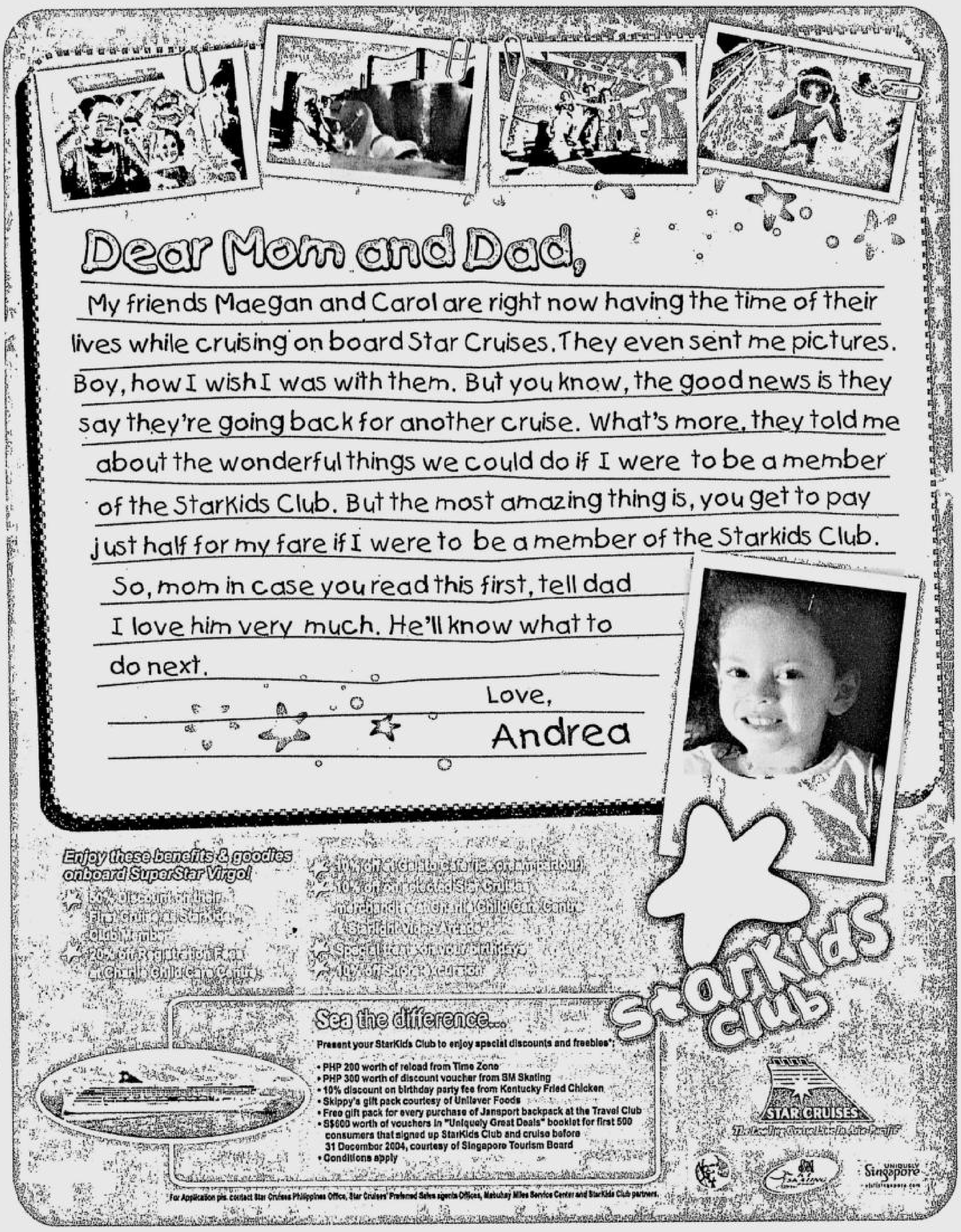
Discovery Suites' booth, Indulgence and Inspiration, featured the Pillow Talk special package available until Oct. 31 and the opening of Discovery Country Suites Tagaytay in November. Call 6352222.

Special room package

THE BELLEVUE Hotel offers its new Private Room Package for business lunches, meetings and intimate family gatherings.

Located at the hotel's main dining area, the Cafe D' Asie Asian Specialty Restaurant, the Private Room serves a maximum of 12 persons. For a minimum of P5,000, guests can enjoy fine dining with the hotel's elegant table settings and attentive service while partaking of its gourmet food selections, especially prepared by executive chef Hans Peter Eckstein. The Private Room is open for lunch and dinner reservations.

Call 7718181.



Dear Mom and Dad,

My friends Maegan and Carol are right now having the time of their lives while cruising on board Star Cruises. They even sent me pictures. Boy, how I wish I was with them. But you know, the good news is they say they're going back for another cruise. What's more, they told me about the wonderful things we could do if I were to be a member of the StarKids Club. But the most amazing thing is, you get to pay just half for my fare if I were to be a member of the Starkids Club.

So, mom in case you read this first, tell dad I love him very much. He'll know what to do next.

Love,
Andrea

Enjoy these benefits & goodies onboard SuperStar Virgo!

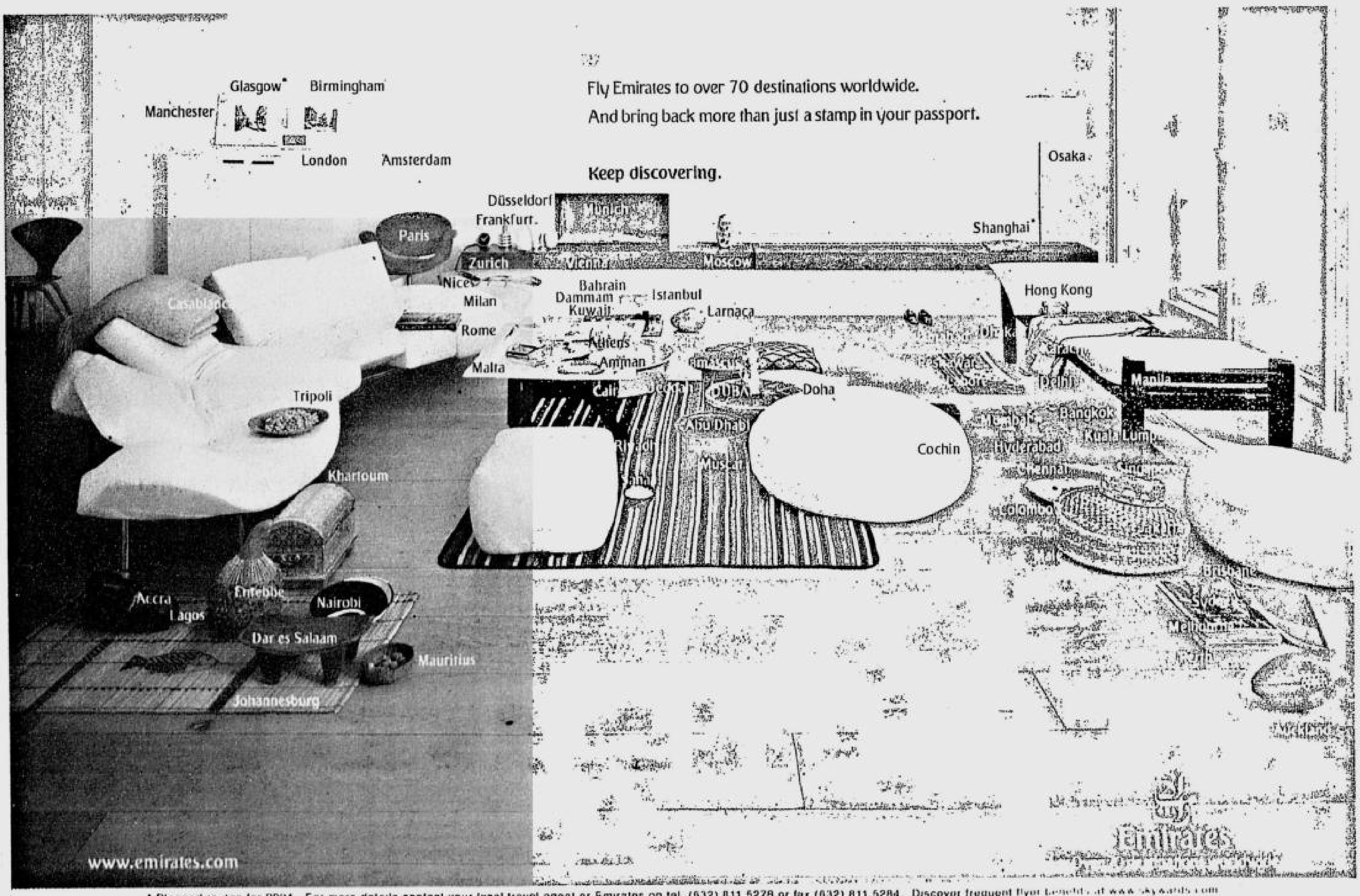
- 50% discount on their First Cruise as StarKids Club Member
- 20% off Registration Fees at Charlie Child Care Centre
- [illegible]
- 10% off on selected Star Cruises merchandise at Charlie Child Care Centre & Starlight Video Arcade
- Special treat on your birthdays
- 10% off Shore Excursion

Sea the difference...

Present your StarKids Club to enjoy special discounts and freebies*:

- PHP 200 worth of reload from Time Zone
- PHP 300 worth of discount voucher from SM Skating
- 10% discount on birthday party fee from Kentucky Fried Chicken
- Skippy's gift pack courtesy of Unilever Foods
- Free gift pack for every purchase of Jansport backpack at the Travel Club
- S$600 worth of vouchers in "Uniquely Great Deals" booklet for first 500 consumers that signed up StarKids Club and cruise before 31 December 2004, courtesy of Singapore Tourism Board
- Conditions apply

For Application pls. contact Star Cruises Philippines Office, Star Cruises' Preferred Sales agents Offices, Mabuhay Miles Service Center and StarKids Club partners.



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* Planned routes for 2004. For more details contact your local travel agent or Emirates on tel. (632) 811 5278 or fax (632) 811 5284. Discover frequent flyer benefits at www.skywards.com

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103 St
B-C
103 St
6
96 St
1-2-3-9
96 St
B-C
96 St
6
MANHATTAN
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B-C
86 St
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Lexington Av/63 St
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66 St Center
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42 St/ Bryant Pk
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42 St
S-4-5-6-7

DON'T brave Manhattan without first arming yourself with a map like this.

In a New

By Gabi Espaldon
Contributor

JOE'S 99 Cents Store, Manhattan: I am paying for groceries when somebody snaps at me from behind, "Hey, girl, you better get on New York speed." A black woman standing next to me wags an irreverent index finger in my direction. She is getting impatient with my inability to differentiate quarters from dimes. "You're not on it, uh-uh," she preaches.

I ignore her as I continue to scrounge around my wallet for exact change. When I look up, the line behind me has doubled. I still don't have the right amount of money. The cashier is drumming her fingers on the counter and blowing pink bubbles with her gum. Between the black woman's unsolicited advice and the cashier's dagger looks, I feel as if I've landed in the middle of a TV game show: The fastest player through the grocery checkout wins. Meanwhile, my two Filipino friends snicker in the background. We've all been victims of the city's dizzying speeds.

Four months ago, I arrived in Manhattan thinking that the pressures of city living wouldn't frazzle my nerves. The objectives were fair and fun: Take two summer classes, look for odd jobs, traipse around tourist spots and while away the time reading books in cafés. Life would be a breeze in New York.

So there I stood at the gates of JFK airport, young, arrogant and overflowing with exuberance to take on one of the world's greatest cities.

No biggie, just another continent.

I fell headlong into a romance with New York's streets and my life unfolded like a traveler's dream. Every little thing I saw inspired curiosity and interest: bits of trivia printed on the back of Metro cards, faded brownstone buildings, steaming manholes, parks lined with enormous elms, hotdog carts, street performers, supermarkets on every few corners, one-dollar pizzas, John Lennon lookalikes strumming their guitars, Pakistani cabbies with funny accents, free concerts at the park, festive block parties—every street corner looking like a scene from a Hollywood movie.

"I'll sleep when I'm dead" became my motto. I burned with so much excitement, up until the day I burned myself out.

Pinoy habits

Suddenly, I had class schedules, appointments and a gazillion e-mails to attend to. Laundry piled up and New York was boring a hole in my wallet. The daily commute lost its charm.

Old Filipino habits crept up on me and worked to my disadvantage. I was procrastinating, moping around, oversleeping and missing people.

No longer a traveler enchanted by new sights and no longer a tourist making memories. I w
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York minute

No native New Yorker, she took her sweet time joining the speed race in the Big Apple but soon caught on

n Broadway

as a Filipino in a strange place—
nely, homesick and hungry for
v battle with New York speed had
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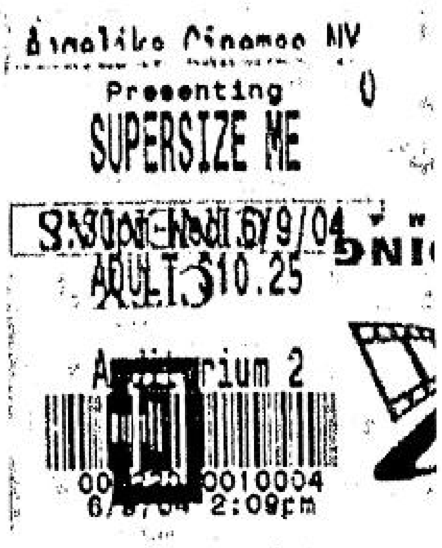
disconcerting to walk down the
d feel that even the trees were mov-
than I was. In Manila, I depended
ortation with wheels. So when my



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YES, movies cost $10.25 in NYC!

aunt, a Filipino who moved to New York, suggested we walk all of 30 street blocks just to get home, I felt like screaming bloody murder. I had to share the sidewalk with zigzagging skateboarders, hurrying brown-baggers, maniacal cab drivers and possessed female shoppers. Dodging pedestrians was one obstacle, trying not to feel like the gigantic skyscrapers were going to eat me up was another. When I saw all these Fedex truckers driving by with their vans and delivering their packages, I felt the tagline mocking me in the face: "Fedex, the world on time." It applied to everyone except me.

I had to find a way to reconcile the laidback Manileño and the speedy New Yorker in me. No way was I going to remain a slave to the clock. But I wasn't willing to be left behind either.

Educational walk

Walking, for starters, can be very educational. To mosey down Fifth Avenue like you're in Luneta Park will merit a dead toenail or two. In Manila, pedestrians walk like they are sightseeing and only pay attention to traffic rules when they're about to be run over. In New York, people respect stoplights to a certain extent. Blatant disregard will incur the wrath of motorists and uncover a wealth of interesting profanities.

Facial expressions are another thing. Once upon a time, while I was looking clueless in Bleeker Street, a flabby, toothless bum threatened to go nuts on me if I didn't give him 10 bucks. In New York, looking smart can spell the difference between getting mugged or getting home in one piece. In Manila, there is more talk of violence than the violence itself. For the most part, looking lost in its streets will get you lewd catcalls or angry car horns.

Waking up to a New York morning is another laborious exercise. Oversleeping in the city that never sleeps will get you in trouble with schedules, bosses and everybody else who isn't part of the Filipino community. In Manila, being 30 minutes to an hour late for dinner dates, family reunions and friendly gatherings is a way of life. As the joke goes, "If a foreigner were invited to a Filipino party, he'd probably get there ahead of the host."

All this I learned and came to a conclusion about life in New York: Efficient, absolutely. Easy, absolutely not.

I kissed my lackadaisical days as a googly-eyed tourist goodbye. I learned to wrestle with homesickness, to scrimp on cash, to talk to strangers, to cook with a dilapidated oven and to do a dozen other things I would never have dreamed of doing back home.

I learned to be fast. To live a relaxed life in the city, you'd have to be as rich as Mayor Bloomberg himself, minus his problems of course. New York is not television. Struggling writers barely have money to pay rent, much less buy a pair of Manolo Blahniks. And people do not hang out with their friends in coffee shops all day. It may not be for everyone, but in the end, it's the speedy lifestyle that gets things done.

That's not to say I stripped myself entirely off the Filipino way of life. Like the many Filipinos who flung themselves off to live in the fast cities of the world, I found my way between two extremes.

Every day I walk by the Empire State Building on the way home. It is no longer the attraction advertised by glossy postcards they sell to tourists on Times Square. It has become a fixture in my daily routine, so often seen that its presence is taken for granted. But on days that I happen to look at it, I am reminded of an urban love affair. I remember a promise to see life away from the Philippines and seeing it through its end. Just by standing under its sheer stature, I feel the world is vast again. I once swore to go home and I am almost ready to. Although I know I will leave again, memories of New York and my struggles with its speed will always stand out like the Empire State, fading in the background but still a little taller than the rest.

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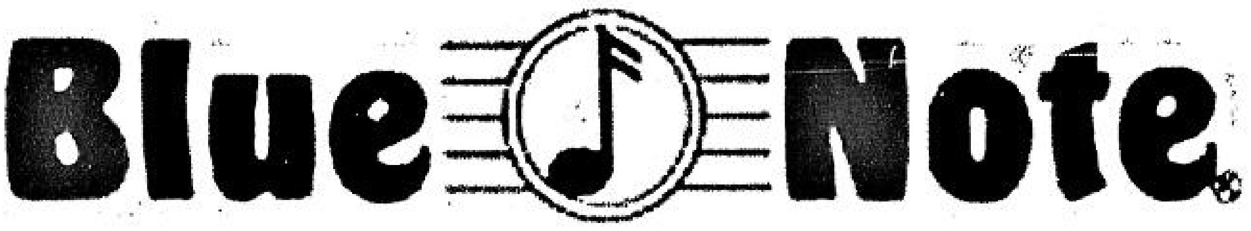
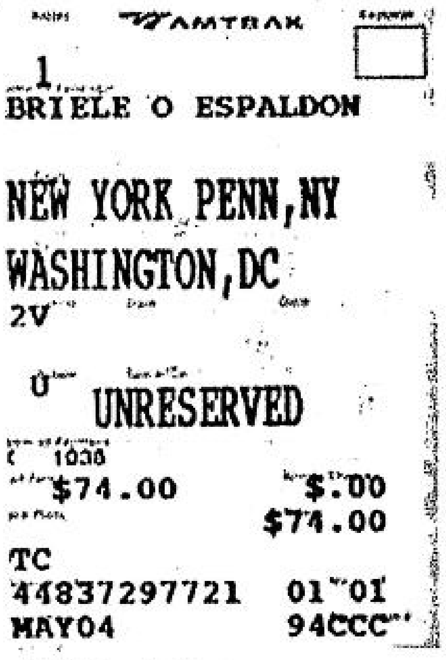


BLUE Note is a famous chain of jazz clubs and restaurants, and synonymous to everything that's exciting and eclectic in NY nightlife.

3 MAY 2004

OF COURSE, I also watched "Phantom of the Opera."



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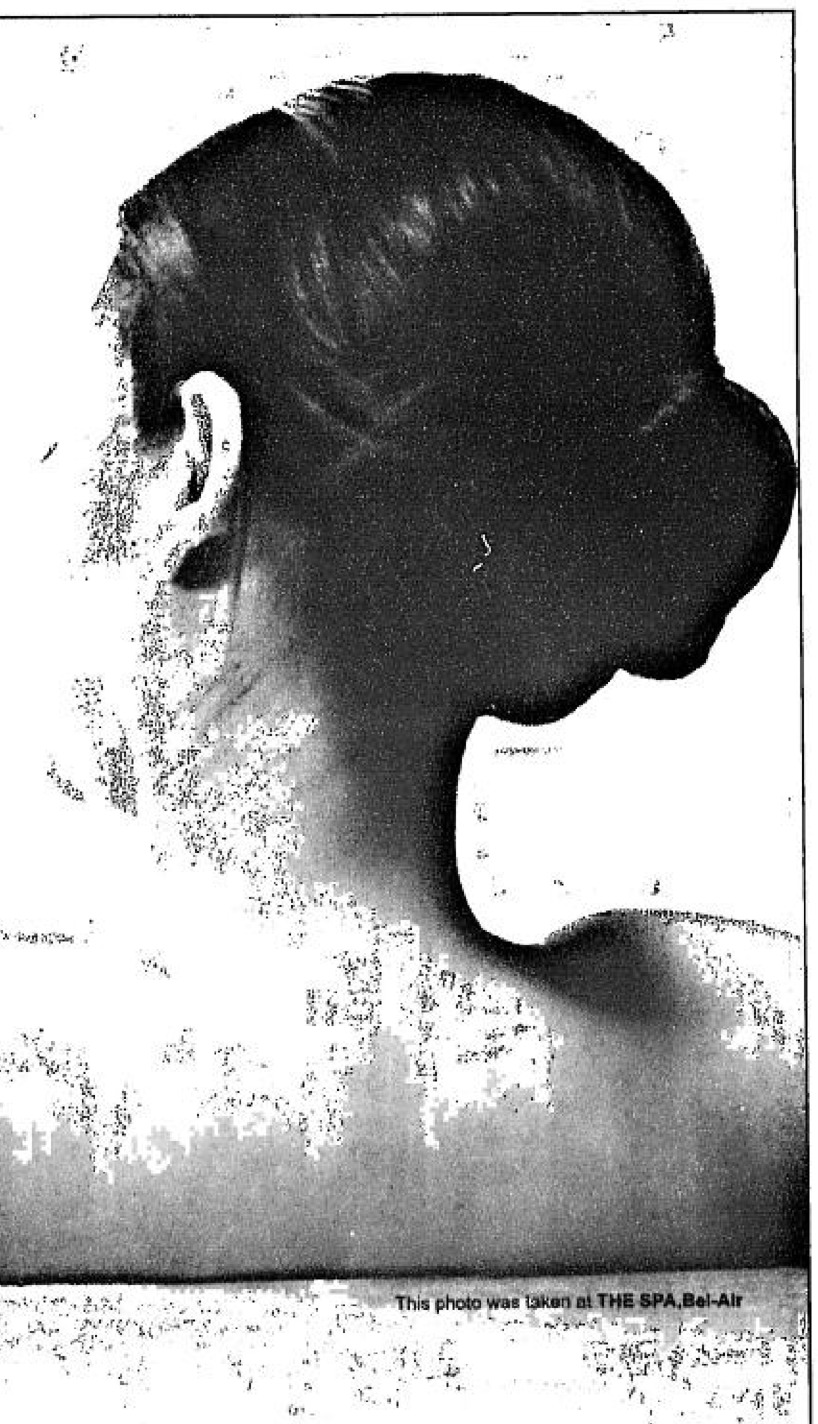

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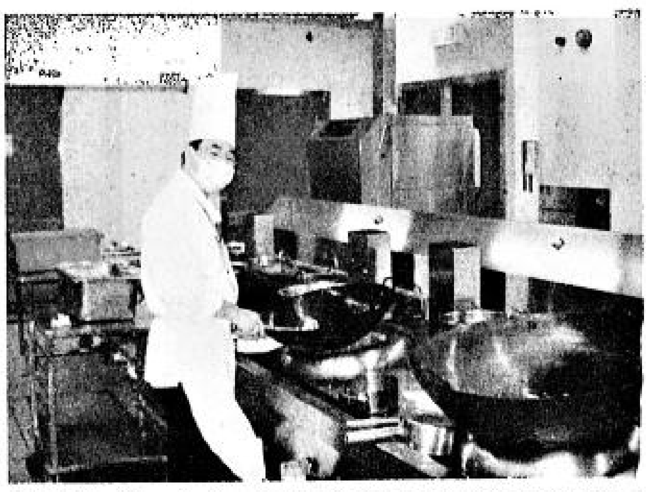
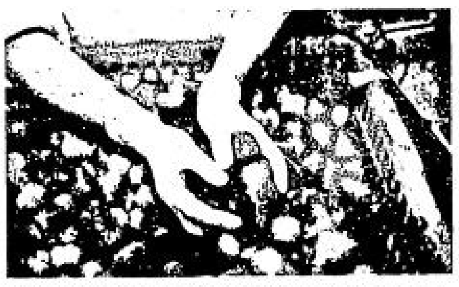
OMELETS and nothing but omelets are made at this station—10,000 pieces per day.



CHEF Alex Chao is all masked-up before giant woks in the hot food section.

LAYERS of cakes in the in-house bakery where 12,000 croissants and Danish pastries are also made fresh daily



ABOUT 3,000 kg of fresh fruits are imported by CPCS daily.

Catering for up there

It is the kitchen symphony at the Cathay Pacific Catering Services that produces 45,000 meals for 33 carriers departing from the HK airport every day

Text and photos by Chelo Banal-Formoso

BEFORE you shove away the tray of food just served you by the flight attendant, give a thought to what it has gone through to get up there with you. Meals are not cooked on the plane—you must know that by now or you don't deserve the frequent flyer mileage you've just redeemed. They are cooked elsewhere and loaded onto the plane, much as passengers and their baggage are, just before departure time. Now, what it takes to have the meal trays ready for your flight is a back story that happens in kitchens run by such companies as the Cathay Pacific Catering Services (CPCS).

The CPCS building, with a floor area the size of nine football fields, houses a huge, high-tech kitchen that operates 24 hours a day because it churns out an average of 45,000 meals daily for 130 flights. Cathay Pacific flights consume 58 percent of the meals produced by CPCS, and the balance is catered to 32 other carriers, including small airlines like Aeroflot Russian and big players like Qantas.

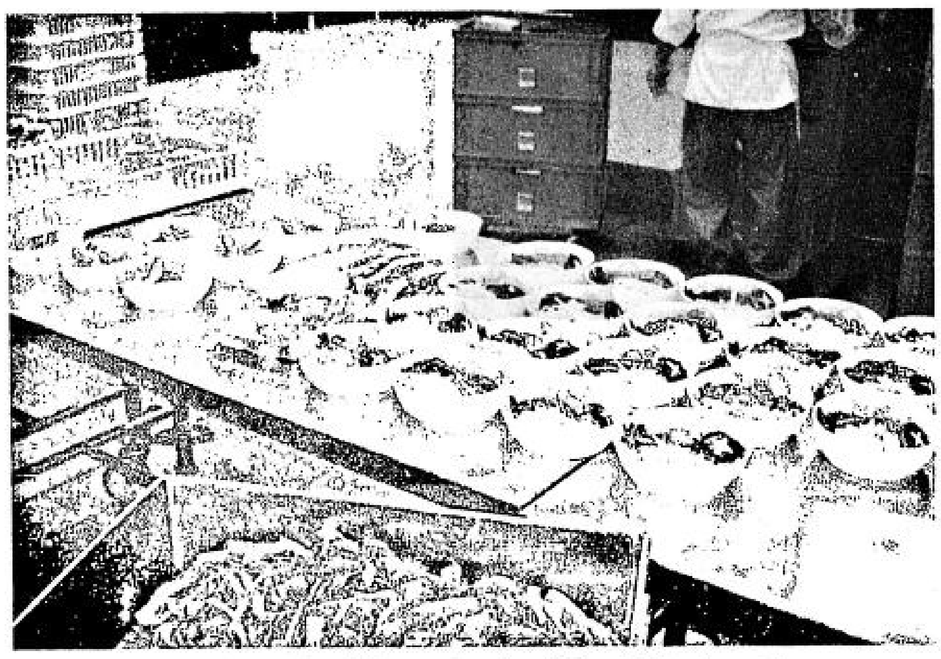
The Philippine Airlines is also a client. When a PAL plane leaves Manila for Hong Kong, it only carries enough meals and amenities for that flight. It cannot overload the plane with stuff that it needs for its passengers on its return flight. After it lands at the Hong Kong airport, it again loads meal trays and other amenities catered by CPCS for its flight back to the Philippines. Everything has to be loaded in only 25-30 minutes, which is why the CPCS building is located near the Hong Kong airport.

Kitchen tour

If you don't cook, touring kitchens may not be your idea of having a good time in, of all places, Hong Kong. But this one is different. It is like a bee colony—so many bees doing precise work in so many cells all day and all night. The honey that they produce is designed to elicit total customer satisfaction.

Some 37 years of experience in inflight catering and multi-million dollars in investment account for smooth operations at CPCS, which also owns equity in the Cebu Pacific Catering Services and five other inflight catering kitchens in other parts of the world, namely in Vancouver, Toronto, Taipei and Ho Chi Minh.

The company's pride and joy is an integrated warehouse management system that makes it possible to do automatic inventory and transport equipment and pallets of goods from floor to floor. This high-bay automated storage and retrieval setup is entertaining to watch, although you don't watch out it might pick you up.



CHINESE food goes through the dishing section where it is readied to be carted.

On the ground floor is the operations area consisting of inbound and outbound docks, the bonded store which keeps the alcoholic and other beverages, the commissary, the receiving and storage area, and the wash area.

The second floor is dedicated to production. It houses the preparation areas for meat, seafood, fruits and vegetables. There are 76 walk-in, centrally monitored, cold rooms. "Sometimes when I'm feeling homesick, I take my thermos of coffee and sit in here and it feels like home," quips Lesley Bailey, CPCS marketing and customer service manager, as he leads a media group into a walk-in cold room.

The smell of food welcomes you to this floor. This is where you find the in-house bakery, hot food kitchen, cold kitchen and dedicated kitchens for Japanese, Halal, Kosher and special meals, such as those for diabetic passengers and children.

Particular care has always been given to hygiene and sanitation, according to Bailey, but more so after the SARS crisis. Tests are performed in house microbiological testing lab, 800 tests taken randomly from any point in the manufacturing process per month.

Assembly line

To give you an idea what transpires before you get your blankets, your headphones and your meals on a flight, no matter how short, here's a short play-by-play:

As soon as passengers have left a plane and it's cleaned out, the carts of dirty dishes and untouched food items and bins of blankets and headphones are brought to CPCS facility by hi-loader trucks. There they are loaded into what's called a "Power & Free System," which is an automated process that moves the carts to where they're supposed to be. For instance, waste is taken out and the carts go to the wash line, the blankets go where they have to be washed, the headsets, where they have to be sanitized and so on.

Cutlery, plates, trays and meal carts are washed and sanitized thoroughly. After they've been checked, they go via the P&F again to be transported to either the storage area or, if they are to be used again, the working areas.

As all the cleaning and sanitizing are going on, the staff in the commissary are busy readying coffee, teabags, newspapers, magazines and other dry goods needed for each flight. They handle about 750,000 items every day.

The people in the bond store, where more than 500 different product lines are handled, are also packing sodas alongside alcoholic beverages in carts.

Meanwhile, one floor up, 40,000 bread rolls are baked fresh every day in the bakery, which also produces 84 other baked items in bulk. In the vegetable room, veggies and salad items are checked, washed and sanitized in the prep area before they are wheeled into the different kitchens. In the fruit room, the staff also checks all of the fruit not only before but also after washing, sanitizing and processing. Watermelons, for instance are submerged in tubs of water before they are cut open. Watermelons, for instance are submerged in tubs of water before they are cut open. "They are among the dirtiest fruits because they grow in the ground," points out Bailey. The CPCS is a big importer of Philippine mango.

Chinese menu

The heart of the production area is, of course, the hot kitchen, a gleaming configuration of stainless steel prep islands, vats and blast chillers. It isn't a surprise that almost half of the hot food prepared here is Chinese. This is Hong Kong, remember. A curious contraption has been purposely designed to make an average of 10,000 omelets a day.

The culinary team that calls the shots here is composed of Australian, British, Chinese, German, Indian, Japanese, Malay, Philippines, South African and Thai chefs.

Taste is a tricky concern when it comes to airbound food. According to Bailey, flavor is affected by the lead time it takes to prepare the food, by the cabin pressure and low humidity on the plane, by the fact that food goes in and out of chillers and by changes in the passenger's body as well. As CPCS sous chef Paul Won said, "Our sense of taste is negatively affected when we fly." So they create dishes that are "a little more robust in standing up to being chilled and then reheated."

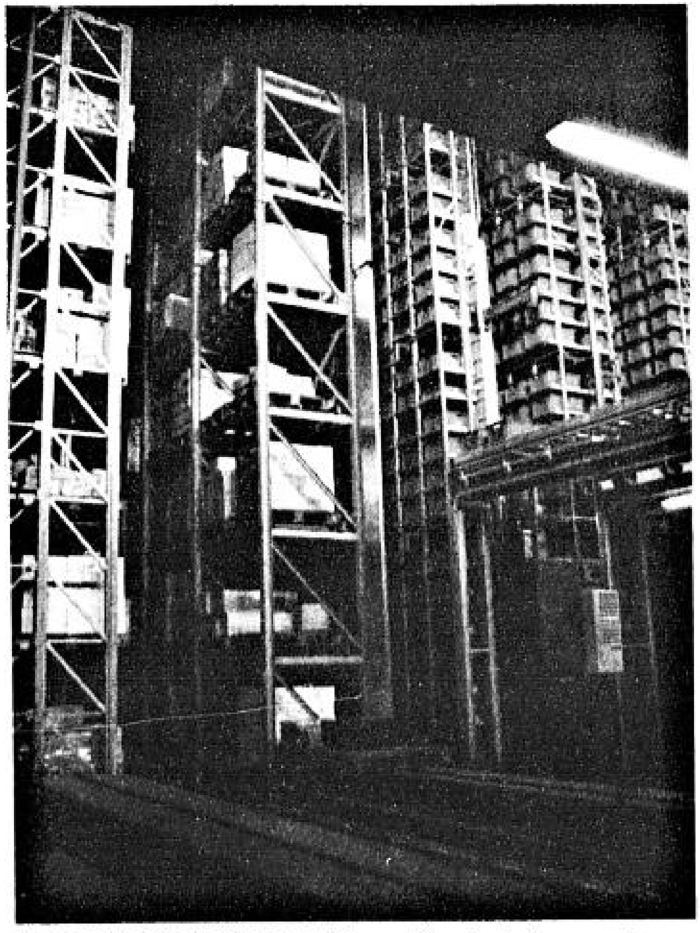
In the dishing section, the cooked food is dished to the strict specifications of the client airline. So strict, in fact, that workers use photos to guide them. Salads, appetizers and desserts, on the other hand, are preset with the plates and cutlery on trays and put into meal carts.

Replenished carts are then sent to the outbound section's cold rooms until they are transported—as are the glassware, cutlery, beverages, headsets, blankets, printed materials, etc.— to the aircraft by refrigerated hi-loader trucks just in time for departure. On the plane, the meals are reheated by flight attendants before served to passengers.

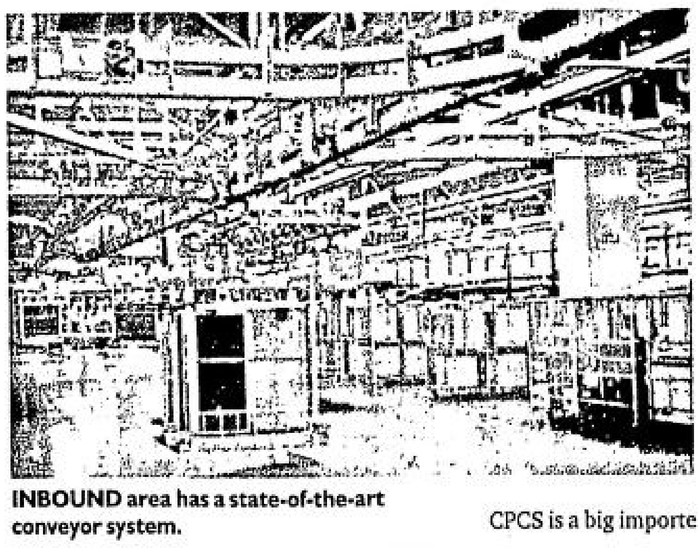
And that's the story behind the food served you 35,000 feet on the air whenever you take a plane back home from Hong Kong.

Cathay Pacific flies to Hong Kong five times daily.

FOOD LINE. Trays are pre-set with meals, dishes and cutlery (above) before they are put into meal carts (below).



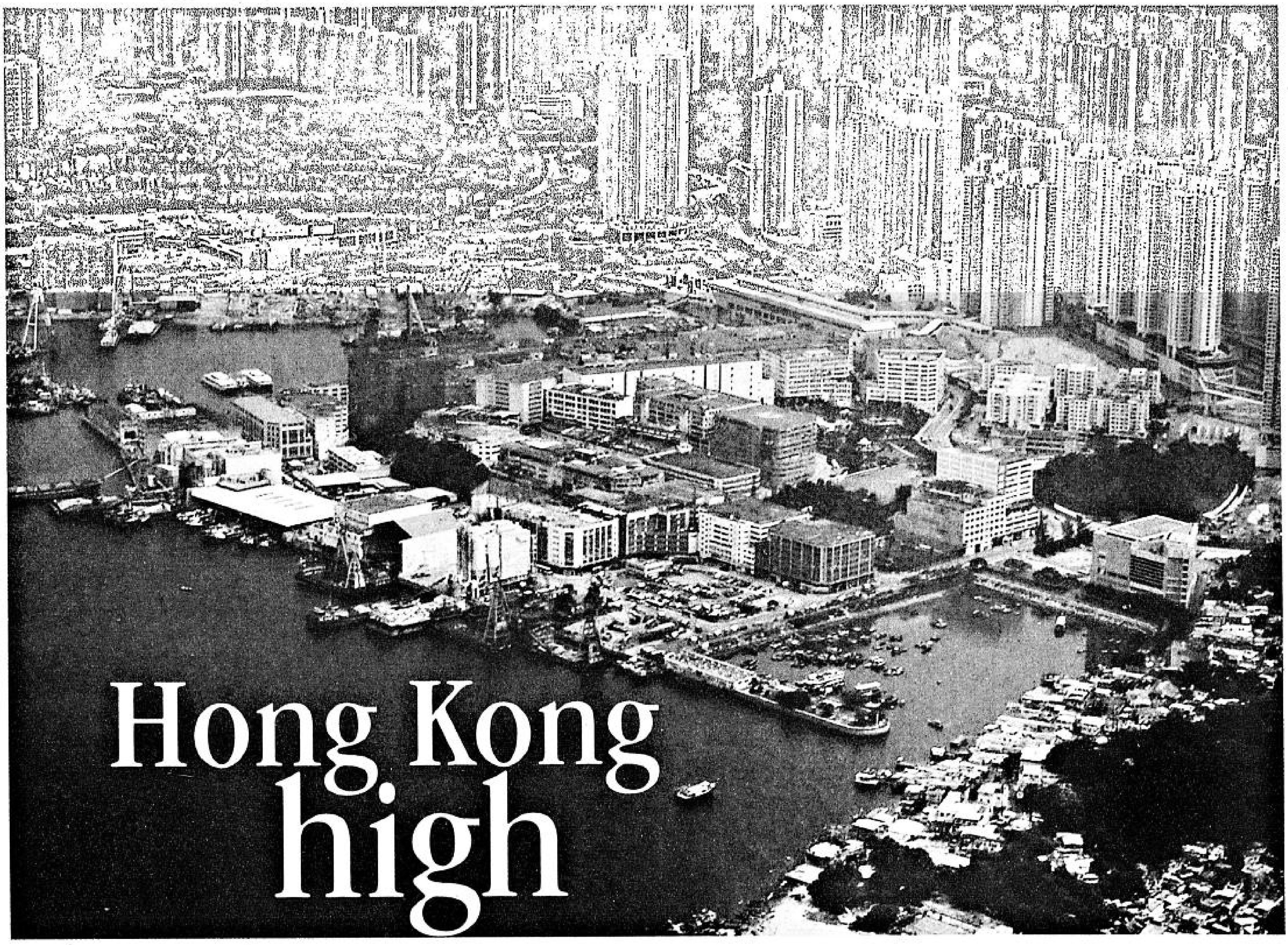
SECRET OF SUCCESS. This high-bay retrieval and storage system ensures automated, fast and efficient inventory and movement of goods and equipment from floor to floor of the huge CPCS building.



INBOUND area has a state-of-the-art conveyor system.

SECURE bond area is where alcohol and soft beverages are chilled and packed.

AUTOMATIC sorting and packaging machines help to make handling cutlery easier. Only plastic cutlery is allowed on US-bound flights.



Hong Kong high

Viewed from a helicopter, the Crown Colony is a city of contrasts—high rises on one side, low structures on the other, and a busy harbor all around

Text and photos by Chelo Banal-Formoso

FROM A HELICOPTER ride to view the island from high up there to the famous afternoon high tea at The Pen lobby—how else can you describe such an experience except as a definite Hong Kong high?

"The Pen" is how the oldest and grandest hotel in Hong Kong is fondly referred to all over the world. Of course, in Manila, we have also taken to calling the Manila Peninsula by that nickname but if you say The Pen elsewhere, they'd think you mean the hotel right by Victoria Harbor in Kowloon.

As a way of celebrating its "75 years of flying high," the HK Pen is offering a helicopter charter for touring Hong Kong Island for only HK$2,288 for a group of up to five persons. Breakfast at the hotel's China Clipper, which houses air travel memorabilia, is an option.

Pen manager Ian Michael Svoboda recently hosted breakfast at the China Clipper for our group of lifestyle journalists, consisting of fresh fruit, the Peninsula's orange pancake, egg à la Florentine, a choice of croissant, Danish pastries, daily muffins, white or whole wheat toast, with freshly brewed coffee or Peninsula tea. After breakfast, there was a brief chance to look at old flying gadgets and photos before it was time to go up to the helipad and take the helicopter ride.

Later that day, the group was treated to what is perhaps the most famous of Peninsula's traditions, the Afternoon High Tea at the lobby. It wasn't surprising at all that people actually queued up to get a table. In the hustle and bustle of a shopping destination like Hong Kong, it is good to stop at 3 p.m. and discover, or rediscover, the pleasure and tradition of enjoying the best scones this side of paradise, freshly made English sandwiches and assorted pastries with a brisk cup of Peninsula tea. The Pen lobby is also the coolest place in HK to do some people-watching.

Progressive dinner

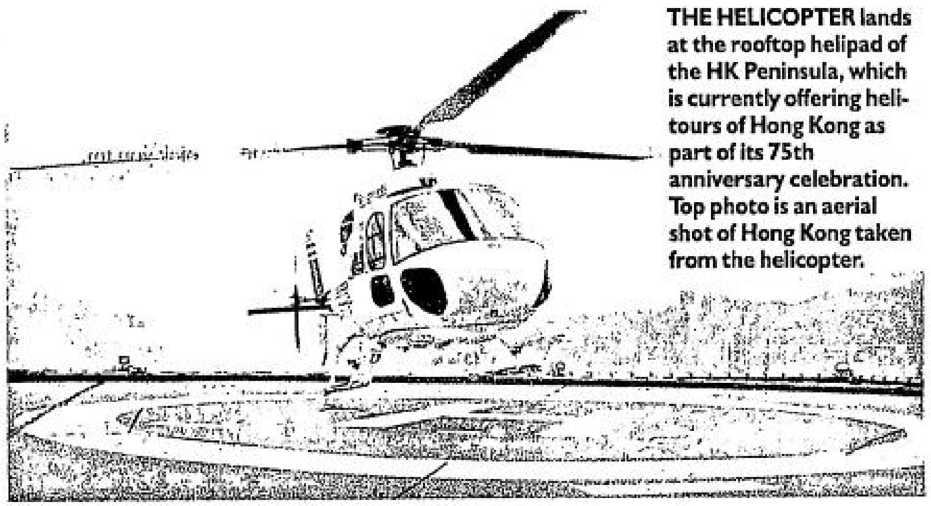
The night before Lamey Chang, the hotel's director of public relations, hosted a progressive dinner for us. A gourmet odyssey around the luxury hotel, it started at The Peninsula Suite, the very same room where VIPs stay. Royals like Prince Charles and the Queen of the Netherlands have stayed in this beautifully appointed suite. Hollywood stars, too, the likes of Tom Cruise and Goldie Hawn. Then there's the story about Clark Gable who checked in while filming "Soldier of Fortune." Gable asked the bartender for a Screwdriver. Of course, bartender Johnny was about to call the engineering department because he had no idea Gable meant the cocktail drink. And so Gable taught him how to make a Screwdriver, and history was made.

Stories like this abound at The Pen because it's a luxury address that is top-of-mind among celebrities when they're bound for Hong Kong. While no celebrities ourselves, we were served Chef's Choice deluxe canapés, wine and a breathtaking view of the harbor in this fabulous suite. Then on to the Spring Moon Chinese restaurant to savor the Spring Moon appetizer combination (see sidebar story) and Shark's fin soup with bamboo fungus. The Pen's Chinese restaurant has an elegant art deco style décor and is also famous for its tea counter, which carries over 25 selected Chinese teas made by professionally trained tea masters. Next, we were served the main course of Roasted Sea Bass Fillet on sautéed capers, olives, octopus and broad beans with fettuccine and lemon butter sauce at Gaddi's.

Finally, we went up to the Felix for our favorite part of the meal: the dessert plus coffee or teas and chocolates. Like they say, you haven't been to HK if you haven't been to the Felix, which to this day is a tourist attraction by itself for its Philippe Starck interiors, bathrooms, Pacific Rim cuisine and Long Table.

In trying to recreate itself in a changing market, the Peninsula has introduced the Peninsula Academy, its award-winning tourism service that offers, among other things, a similar exclusive dining experience called "Culinary Journey." Bookings are accepted daily for a minimum of two persons and a max of 12. If your stay in Hong Kong is rather short, they may be able to accommodate you if you make reservations prior to 2 p.m. for same day dining. Cost is $1,288++ per person.

The Peninsula Hong Kong is located on Salisbury Road, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon.



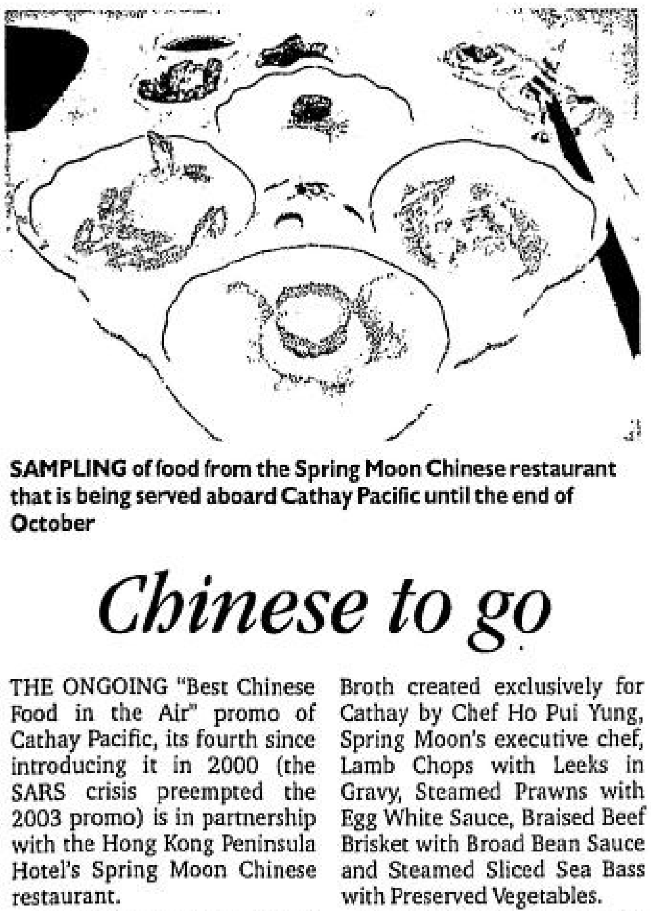
THE HELICOPTER lands at the rooftop helipad of the HK Peninsula, which is currently offering helitours of Hong Kong as part of its 75th anniversary celebration. Top photo is an aerial shot of Hong Kong taken from the helicopter.

HIGH TEA at The Pen lobby inspires long queues of people who are hungry for its to-drool-for scones and other English treats.

BRAVE HEART. Rhoda Capuno, Cathay Pacific PR manager in RP, takes the chopper's front seat.

HK PENINSULA manager Ian Michael Svoboda

TABLE at the China Clipper is set for pre-helitour breakfast.



SAMPLING of food from the Spring Moon Chinese restaurant that is being served aboard Cathay Pacific until the end of October

Chinese to go

THE ONGOING "Best Chinese Food in the Air" promo of Cathay Pacific, its fourth since introducing it in 2000 (the SARS crisis preempted the 2003 promo) is in partnership with the Hong Kong Peninsula Hotel's Spring Moon Chinese restaurant.

Until Oct. 31, Hong Kong's home carrier is serving its passengers a selection of specially prepared authentic Chinese dishes. The Spring Moon has also added the dishes on its menu for the duration of the promo.

Of the 70 dishes originally proposed for the promo, only 30 took flight, among them Prawns with Snow Fungus and Chrysanthemum in a Clear Broth created exclusively for Cathay by Chef Ho Pui Yung, Spring Moon's executive chef, Lamb Chops with Leeks in Gravy, Steamed Prawns with Egg White Sauce, Braised Beef Brisket with Broad Bean Sauce and Steamed Sliced Sea Bass with Preserved Vegetables.

Cathay Pacific's "Best Chinese Food in the Air" promo was launched to acquaint passengers with dishes from some of Hong Kong's most famous restaurants. Past partners have included the incredibly popular Yung Kee restaurant, which has been selected twice; Hunan Garden, Peking Garden, Sichuan Garden, Chiuchow Garden, Shanghai Garden and Jade Garden.

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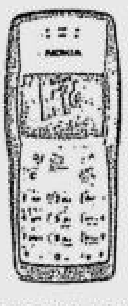

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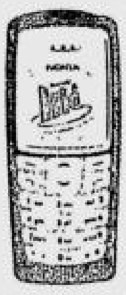

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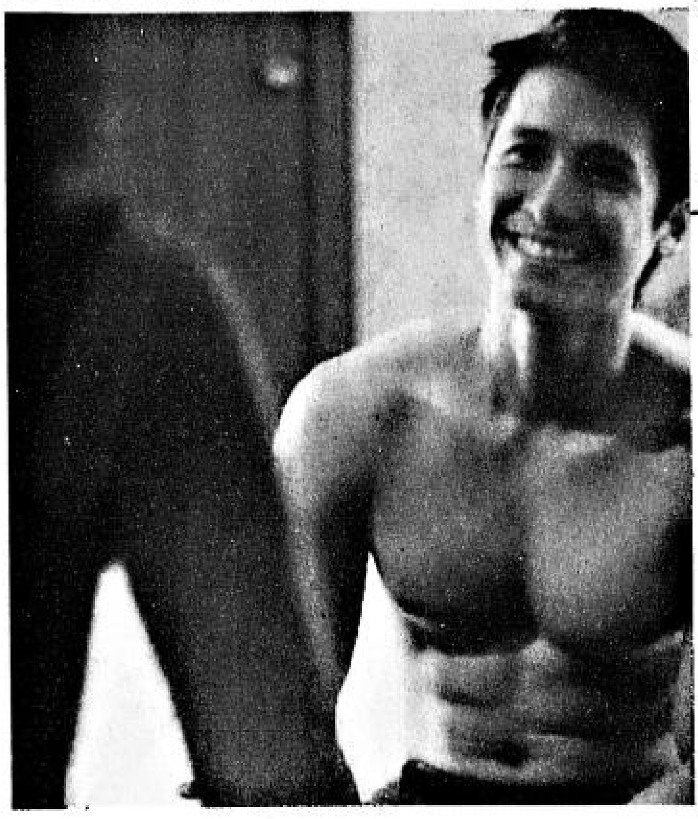
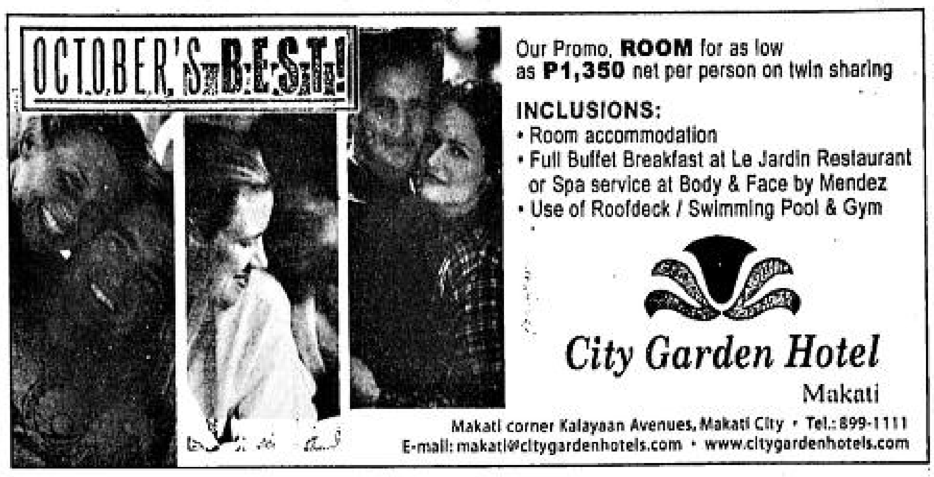


Pinoy males suffer from erectile dysfunction and sexual incapacity, but won't talk about them



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Overcoming the culture of sexual silence

By Pepper Marcelo
Contributor

BETWEEN keeping their public image and living a healthful lifestyle, more men would rather choose the former and suffer in a "culture of silence."

This was one of the results of a recent study conducted by the Sexual Wellness in Men (SWIM) Foundation, a group composed of multidisciplinary experts in psychology, urology and cardiology. The foundation takes a holistic approach to men's sexual wellness.

"There is a prevailing and strong culture of silence among men," says Michael Arnonobal, Bayer HealthCare senior product manager. "The reason mainly is that in Asian and Philippine culture, men have to keep this image of being unwavering pillars of strength, and anything that undermines that, men shun."

Unknown to these men, their sexual lives and overall health get affected by choosing to be silent. It is rare for any man who suffers from any kind of sexual difficulty to admit there is anything wrong with him. Sexual difficulty can be defined as two things: The inability to have an erection, and the inability to complete sexual intercourse.

The research, which sampled 300 men from the A, B and upper C backgrounds, shows that 37 percent have substantial sexual difficulty; 40 percent of the men surveyed would disagree that they had a problem; and practically 90 percent would not admit to having the problem. The most usual answer of the respondents is silence.

It was also discovered that 84 percent of the respondents felt that their overall health condition was good or excellent, but upon deeper questioning, 68 percent of them admitted to be suffering from hypertension, diabetes, backache, sleeping problems or digestive problems. The stark reality the research shows is that Filipino men are actually in worse health than they let on.

"There's a disconnection between the perception of their well-being and their actual condition," adds Arnonobal. "A common perception is that men view deterioration of health conditions mainly as 'wear-and-tear,' just like a machine. Ironically, the strong desire to be seen as very strong actually makes men more vulnerable at the end of the day, because they keep it to themselves, and then more serious problems arise, and they try to get help, then it's sometimes too late."

Evasion

Men with sexual difficulty tend to just hide the problem from their partners or simply pretend that they are sleepy or tired, to the detriment of their relationship.

"The way they deal with the problem is they say they need rest, *pagod lang ako*, stressed out," he says. "Second, they try multivitamins; no one would think that you're taking it for potency. Or they'll try Chinese herbal meds, or exercise. If that doesn't work, they say, 'It's my partner, I've been with her 20 years.'"

Based on perception, these men are afraid that if their wives or partners found out the truth—the way women deal with the problem will be a nightmare to them—they think they will be talked about or, worse, made fun of by their friends and relatives.

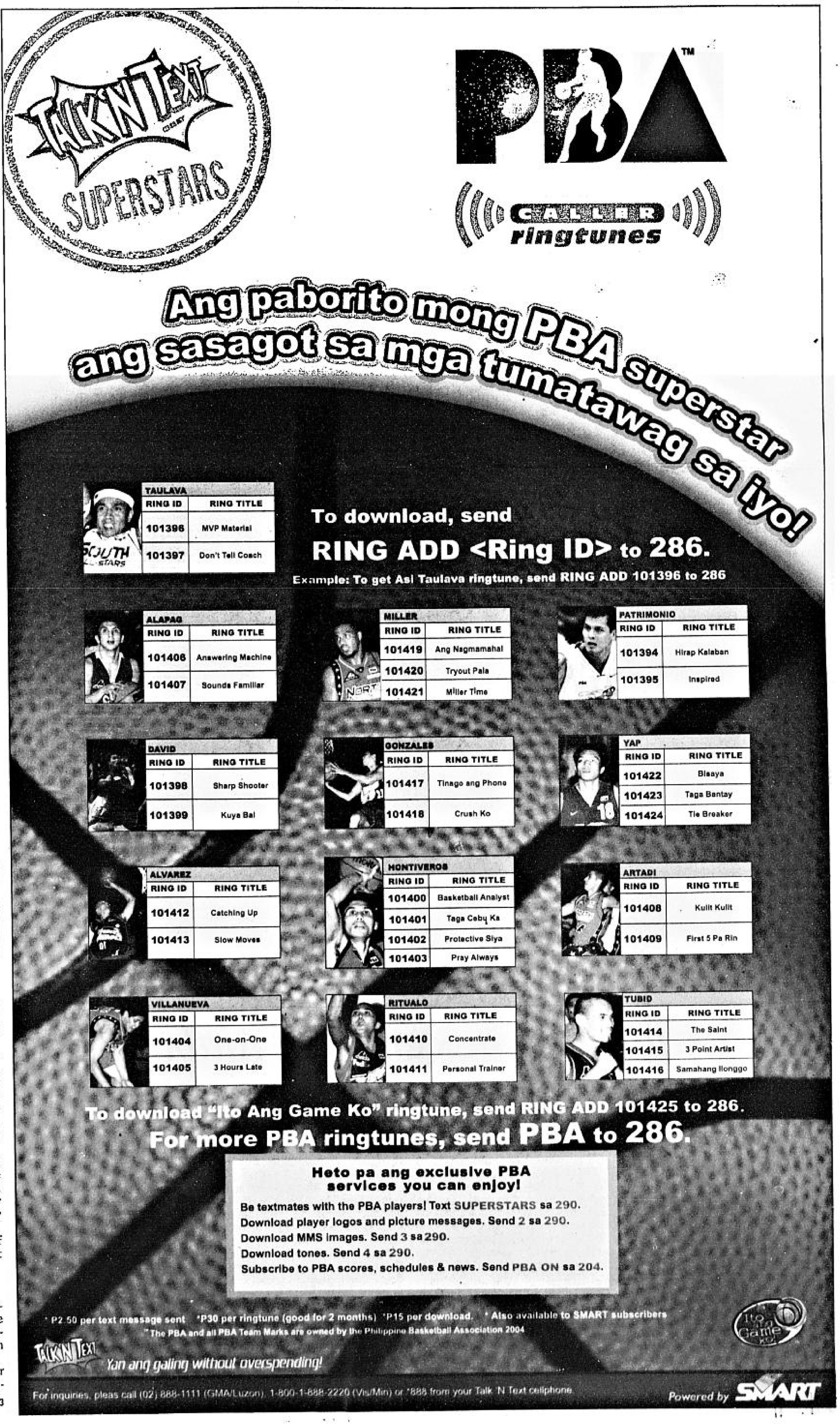
In other words, men are more worried of what others think of them, rather than what they think of themselves.

Misconceptions on men

"Most men, in fact, value respect and dignity more than they value sexual pleasure," he says. "So this is as opposed to common perceptions that there's nothing in a man's brain than sex."

Adds Amor Maclang, whose firm—Geiser Maclang—is helping to promote the founda-

OVERCOMING/ D3



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National treasures

Despite the serious problem of migration of teachers, many dedicated tutors remain, as this year's Metrobank winners prove

By Constantino C. Tejero

ALLAN Canonigo of New Ormoc City National High School

TEACHERS are highly regarded in Asian societies. It is an infamy then that, in ours, they are made to grovel for a minimal increase in their salaries. (A young congressman responded with righteous indignation on television, saying these people have more integrity than most of those in Congress.)

But our teachers become kings and queens at this time of the year. The Search for Outstanding Teachers of the Metrobank Foundation, established in 1985 at the tail-end of the Marcos years when they were treated less than royally, sees to it that they're given their due annually. Since 1985, the foundation has recognized 236 outstanding teachers.

This is a year-round program involving a preparatory phase; an information campaign; preliminary, semifinal and final judging; then the awarding of the Ten Most Outstanding Teachers of the Year. This year, there had been nearly 200 nominees.

Winners are presented in Malacañang, where the President confers them gold medallions. Each winner also receives a trophy and a cash prize of P200,000. His or her school is given a plaque of recognition and financial assistance for faculty development.

One of this year's awardees is Allan Mesa Canonigo, 33, master teacher I at New Ormoc City National High School in Leyte, where he has served for 12 years. He teaches Geometry, Trigonometry and Advanced Algebra to third- and fourth-year students.

There are 14 Math teachers in his school of 4,200 students, with 60-70 students to a class. But more than handling an unwieldy number of teenagers, Canonigo's problem is how to interest these youngsters in Math.

Students' attitude

"That's my biggest problem—the students' attitude," he smiles. "Generally speaking, *ayaw nila ang* Math. *Walang* interest, *e. 'Yan mahirap nga, hindi nila ma*-visualize, *ano raw ang* use. Interest is important, *'yung* attitude *mo sa* subject. *Kung ayaw, wala talaga.*"

He believes the problem is made worse by mass culture and the present environment. "*Mga bata ngayon hindi na* critical. *Naging* passive *sila...* Math develops critical thinking."

But he doesn't give up on his students. He uses several techniques to interest them, such as jokes, analogies with TV commercials, inspiring quotes, competition.

He also believes the subject is somehow gender-related. "*Karamihan sa magagaling sa* Math *lalaki. Ngayon lang 'yung may babae. Mas* practical *kasi ang lalaki. Sa pagkakaalam ko*, the male reasons based on the practical side."

Canonigo received his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics for Teachers from the Philippine Normal University in Manila; and a Master of Science in Teaching Mathematics from Ateneo de Manila University.

"*Istrikto ako sa klase, pero nagpapatawa*," he says. "*Ayokong matakot ang* student *sa akin. Gusto ko talaga matuto sila. Sa* Math *maraming* failures, *ako naman nakabigay ng* grades *na* 98 *at* 99."

That, he says, is the highest grade a student has received in his school. No other teacher in any other subject has given that grade. For such a hard subject, this one proves to be a soft-hearted teacher.

Three pillars

Another awardee, Dr. Antonio Miguel Limcaco Dans, 46, professor II at the University of the Philippines College of Medicine in Manila, pioneered evidence-based medicine (EBM) in the country in the mid-'90s, introducing it in the medical curriculum.

Dans has a Bachelor of Science, major in Zoology, from UP Diliman, cum laude; Doctor of Medicine (Internal Medicine, Cardiology), from UP Manila; and Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology, from McMaster University in Canada.

As a professor, Dans tries to uphold the three pillars of the academe, for which his school is known: research, service and teaching.

On research, he has a favorite quotation from his former mentor, Dr. Dave Sackett: "Half of what we learn in medical school is trash. We just don't know which half." (This is the foundation of EBM.)

Dans believes Filipino physicians "have become passive and are often uncritical consumers of the latest technology." Thus, they tend to prescribe a new but unproven drug, rather than an old but effective one.

"You don't prescribe a harmful drug, and you also don't prescribe a useless one," he says. "It's a waste of money, which can be used for other necessities. We're wasting millions of pesos here. *E, may* fiscal crisis *na nga, e.*"

Or, worse, other doctors prescribe without exhaustive research on either the drug or the illness.

"*Dumadami ang* information every year, *nadadagdagan*, and each patient is a new lesson," says Dans. "EBM is no longer optional, it is required knowledge. *Nagiging* basic science *na s'ya, e.* We call it clinical epidemiology. What we teach here is, you don't just rely on what you learn in medical school, you have to track down and search the mountains of literature. At least 50,000 medical publications see print in a month. *Hahanapin mo d'yan kung saan ang* data *para sa* patient *mo.*"

Rebellious student

On service, he has interesting experiences with compassion fatigue. He explains how empathizing too much with one's patient can drain one of physical and psychic energies.

"*Pagod na pagod ka rito, nabubugbog ka*, like in a fraternity," he says. "*Nasisimot ka.*"

On teaching, he relates: "I really wanted to be a teacher, but I was discouraged by my father because there was no money in it. *Ayaw din n'ya ang* doctor *dahil masyadong mahaba ang* schooling. Now I'm both."

Of his teaching style, he says: "*Hindi kami masyadong ma*-lecture. Our technique is self-learning. Criticize everything you're being taught. I was a rebel when I was a student. *'Pag tingin ko mali, 'di ko aralin 'yan, bagsak kung bagsak. Inaaral ko ang gusto kong aralin, ang sa tingin ko importante. Maraming* theoretical *na hindi kailangan.* What's ironic is, I'm a teacher but I teach even my children to become rebels."

His biggest problem with his students is how to get them to maintain their idealism through medical school. "When compassion fatigue sets in, *nagiging parang* robot *ka. Memorya lang nang memorya.* So creativity is suppressed. They enter idealistic and they come out tired."

Despite all that, the exhilaration is priceless: "Teaching is a wonderful learning experience. By becoming a teacher, you commit to become a student all your life. In a way, you are able to stay young for as long as you can."

Dans has been teaching for 19 years, but he looks younger than his age. And sweetly sentimental, too.

"I have a box of letters from my students," he confides. "*Sa akin, 'yan ang* treasure box *ko.*"

Most difficult task

Of this year's awardees, probably the most difficult task is that of Anabelle Sabordo Catimbang, 40, Special Education teacher I at Iriga City Division Integrated Special School in Camarines Sur.

Catimbang pioneered and organized the SPED center in her province. With 20 years of service behind her, she is now teacher-in-charge in the SPED elementary school.

The center she put up is no building or classroom but the space under the grandstand of the Iriga City Sports Complex. It used to be an idle place where cows and goats would rest after grazing, until she convinced the Department of Education division office to turn it into an avenue of learning. The hall-like place has since been partitioned into a semblance of classrooms, clinic, canteen, office.

There are 104 special children in both primary and high school, with the youngest a 3-year-old boy who's totally blind. Most of them are hearing-impaired (profoundly deaf or hard-of-hearing), and there are slow learners, orthopedically handicapped, speech-defective, blind and children with autism, cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome.

"In Special Education centers, we cannot reject a special child," says Catimbang. "*Wala nang ibang pupuntahan 'yan.* Considering the developmental delay, enrolment is all year round. There are so many special children who are unreached and unserved. *Sa* place *lang namin*, considering the distance from home to center, there's no transportation, parents are untrained..."

Catimbang has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and in Special Education, major in Hearing Impairment, from the University of St. Anthony in Iriga; and a Master of Arts in Education for the Deaf (Normal Intelligence), from Institut voor Doven in The Netherlands.

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal Arroyo awards Annabelle S. Catimbang of Iriga City.

ANTONIO Miguel Dans of U.P. Manila

PHOTOS: VAL HANDUMON

She handles the hearing-impaired (usually the profoundly deaf, who rely on sign language), the speech-defective, the autistic. Of all the children in the center, she finds those with autism to be the hardest to teach.

"They have attention deficit, and usually they have no eye-to-eye contact," she says. "You cannot teach them how to write, what to color, or what, when they don't pay attention. So we train them in face-directedness. That's the first thing that should be developed in the child. Prompting. *Kailangan mapasensiya ka.* When you prompt, it should be gentle—*mapi*-feel *nila.*"

Four philosophies

But sometimes things get out of hand. "*Nasasaktan nila ako.* They're usually newcomers, *hindi pa* modified *ang* behavior. They do not really mean to hurt, but it's just a way of calling your attention. This necklace, *ilang beses ko na 'to pinagdugtong.* We advise teachers not to wear necklaces, earrings, bracelets. They view me as a disciplinarian, *pero hindi naman sila takot sa akin na parang* terror."

The center has also an early-intervention program to fill up the gap caused by developmental delay. It conducts small-group sessions with parents. Teachers are only consultants and the parents the implementers at home.

Catimbang has been receiving job offers abroad, but she does not have the heart to leave her own children behind. "*Kung umalis ako, baka mga anak ko ang ma*-disable. I've been handling special children for years, but I still panic when it concerns my own children—*kung medyo may* infection, *medyo may* sore eyes. *Ayaw kong masaktan sila. Baka medyo maumpog ang ulo, baka magka-diperensiya sa utak.* I always pray, Lord, not my children."

And so she keeps these four teaching philosophies: Value the special child as a child. Develop empathy. Use a variety of teaching strategies. Consider the child as your own.

The rest of the Outstanding Teachers are: Melrose B. Peralta, 35, master teacher I in English at Kidapawan City Pilot Elementary School in Cotabato; Lina L. Jala, 57, master teacher II in Music at Triple Union Elementary School in Bohol; Josephine C. Deligente, 49, master teacher II in Filipino at Fernando Ma. Guerrero Elementary School in Manila; Genersol G. Monton, 46, master teacher II in Biology at Fort Bonifacio High School in Makati City; Mariecon G. Ramirez, 33, teacher III in English at Ilocos Norte National High School; Noel G. Solis, 36, master teacher I in Biology at Zamboanga del Norte National High School; and Dr. Manuel B. Dy Jr., 57, professor in Philosophy at Ateneo de Manila University.

They may not be royalty but, as Catimbang says, among all the professionals in this world, teachers stand the tallest.

Kiddie learning center at Alabang Town Center

IT goes without saying that an Ayala commercial establishment is the epicenter of urban life. And since the rapid urbanization of the South over the last decade, it comes as no surprise that the eminent Ayala conglomerate has slowly encroached over suburbia as well.

Alabang—that tree-lined, august enclave in Muntinlupa City—has become the undisputed heartland of southern Manila. Its once stark skyline now predominated by imperious skyscrapers and the bucolic business parks of long ago is now littered with residential villages, hospitals, schools and a string of shopping malls.

At the hub of this burgeoning community is the Alabang Town Center, Ayala's largest commercial center south of Manila which, since its inception 20 years ago, has swiftly adapted to the urbanization of its lush and genteel surroundings.

"The shopping center has been here since 1984, and over time it has grown with the community," says Ayala Land's Javier Hernandez, general manager of the Alabang Town Center. "Right now, it's a suburban commercial center catering to the Parañaque, Muntinlupa, Las Piñas and Calabarzon areas, where there aren't many large-scale shopping centers."

Starting with a modest shopping arcade, an ice cream parlor and two cinemas, the Alabang Town Center has grown to provide its customers with facilities and services that have made the town virtually self-sufficient. "You have the big shopping centers in Makati and Pasig, but we needed one for them close to where they live," explains Hernandez. "We don't want them to have to travel to Makati then take another long trek back home."

"Here in the Town Center," he continues, "we like to be as complete as possible: Shopping, entertainment, dining, amusement and, of course, services."

They added education to their roster of multifarious services when the Brent International School's Early Learning Center opened at the 3/L Alabang Town Center on Aug. 15.

According to Dick Robbins, headmaster of Brent International School Manila, the decision to open a preschool in the Alabang Town Center was a practical one. "Brent wanted to respond to the request of parents in the Ayala Alabang area to put a preschool so that the kids did not have to drive all the way to our Mampalasan Campus, " he explains. "So understanding that need, we wanted a place as close to Ayala Alabang Village as possible because that's where most of our students live."

Having a school in the mall also makes it a whole lot more convenient for parents. "Small children are generally brought by their mother, and since the period of time for preschool is shorter, they can just drop them off and go around the mall," says Robbins. "The 1-2½ hours the kids will be in the center enables the parent to be nearby, which is where you want to be when they're 2 or 3."

According to Hernandez, strict provisions have also been made to ensure the safety of the students while inside ATC. "We pride ourselves on being a very safe and secure mall, to extent of being exaggerated," he says. "But I believe it is a strong position for us."

The 300-sq m Brent Early Learning Center will be running two preschool modules for 2- and 3-year-old children. First is the Nursery I and II program, which will hold classes Monday to Friday from 8:30-11 a.m. Afternoons are allotted for another, slightly more flexible module, the Discovery Program, which will consist of 1-hour sessions held thrice a week, either on a M-W-F or T-Th-Sat schedule.

"The programs will give them a taste of school as well as a lot of socialization and exposure to words, numbers, shapes, colors and music," says Robbins. "Basically, activities to heighten their senses and awareness. It's like a little bridge to Grade 1 with mostly fun-activities for them."

WORLD-RENOWNED biochemist from Germany's Bayer HealthCare, Dr. Erwin Bischoff, joins recipients of the plaque of appreciation bestowed by the SWIM foundation, for their efforts in advancing the cause of men's sexual wellness and helping propagate a lifestyle of total well-being: Dr. Eduardo Gatchalian, Tina Aboitiz-Juan, Dr. Luis Raymond Go, Dr. Ephraim Gochangco and Dr. Dennis Serrano.

Overcoming the culture of sexual silence

From page D1

tion: "Unbeknown to most, men usually define happiness in terms of the satisfaction of the needs of others related to them. Example, when a father is asked how he deems himself successful, he will say *'napag-aral ko apat sa mga anak ko, nagpatayo ako ng bahay para sa magulang at asawa ko'*; the satisfaction, fulfillment of other people."

One of the devastating negative affects that could arise from this problem is one of the more common dilemmas in Filipino society—infidelity.

"As opposed to popular belief that enhancement of sexual performance can actually break marriages, it's actually keeping silent about the sexual issues between a man and his partner that may potentially lead to a damaged relationship," Arnonobal says. "Really, what we're trying to do is not even promoting promiscuity, or giving more reason to have sex, but trying to help keep the relationship, whether in a marriage or in a mature stable relationship."

The SWIM foundation notes that a satisfying sex life is not dependent only on the physical capacity of the man. "There's the communication part, the emotional, psychological, lifestyle and fitness, and the science part," Arnonobal says. "Erection (which would fall under science) is only one of the those things."

For erectile dysfunction, drugs are readily available in the market. One of them is Vardenafil, which is classified as a PDE-5 inhibitor. PDE-5 is an enzyme that causes breakdown of cyclic GMP, the chemical working to create an erection. Vardenafil was launched in the US in September 2003. It has been approved in 77 countries worldwide.

Dr. Erwin Bischoff, a biochemist from Bayer HealthCare and the world-renowned biochemist who invented Vardenafil, cautions users of the drug. "Don't spread the message that when taking this drug, you'll be capable of becoming a sex monster. It's not an aphrodisiac. The drug just restores normal function, doesn't affect brain or libido."

Bischoff does, however, agree that communicating is tantamount to solving the problem. "I think what I like is the approach to saying okay, sexual activity for a man is completely normal, and we will try something that will address this. The problem with this dysfunction is, everybody knows that men suffer from sexual problems, even younger ones, but when you ask, 'Do you know one?' Everyone knows there is something, but nobody confesses. Nobody is talking about this, and that is a big problem, and even some physicians are shy to talk to their patients. Any chronologist that is treating people with diabetes, he knows very well that patients have problems, but doesn't ask them."

What the foundation hopes to do is to teach men how to communicate to their partners, doctors and *barkada* within that culture of silence—communication that preserves dignity, privacy and respect.

"The most important thing is to educate physicians and approach the men," Bischoff says.

BAYER HealthCare senior product manager Michael Arnonobal enthusiastically discusses Bayer's support for and participation in the SWIM foundation.

One of the devastating negative affects that could arise from this problem is that common dilemma in Filipino society—infidelity

RP's summer capital wants another title

BAGUIO is gearing to become the "City of Readers."

Led by Mayor Braulio Yaranon, over 600 Grade 4 students from 28 public schools welcomed the "Jollibee Kids Read" of the Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation at the Baguio Convention Center.

The Grade 4 students will participate in a 31-day Read-a-Thon that is integrated into the school curriculum. Regina Lomotan of SAS Foundation said the focus was on Grade 4 students because studies showed it was at this stage that kids learned to read, decode and comprehend words and sentences.

Yaranon said reading, as well as writing and arithmetic, gave him a good educational foundation.

The three-year-old reading program is implemented in urban, suburban and rural areas throughout the country, with private individuals and corporations, the Department of Education and local government units (LGUs). It has helped children develop a love for reading, greater social awareness and responsibility.

Earlier this year, Jollibee also launched the Reading Program in Naga City. Other "Jollibee Kids Read" areas are Marikina, Nasugbu, Pampanga, Bulacan and Makati. Through "Jollibee Kids Read" with Sa Aklat Sisikat, the fastfood tries to make a difference in the lives of Filipino children and future generations.

DEPED officers of Baguio receive a bag of books as a symbol of their acceptance of the "Jollibee Kids Read" with Sa Aklat Sisikat. Jollibee assistant product manager Kay Segismundo hands over the gift.

BAGUIO City Mayor Braulio Yaranon reads to children one of the books during the launch.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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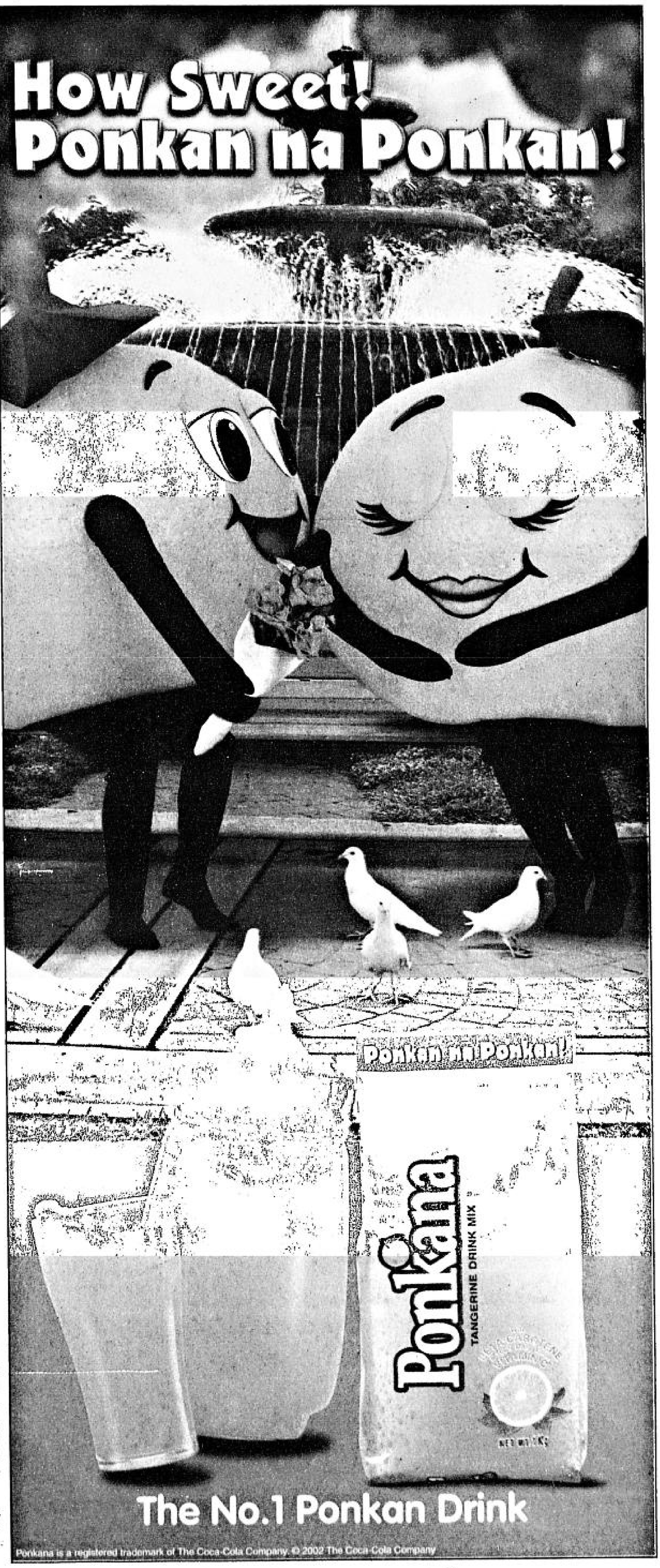

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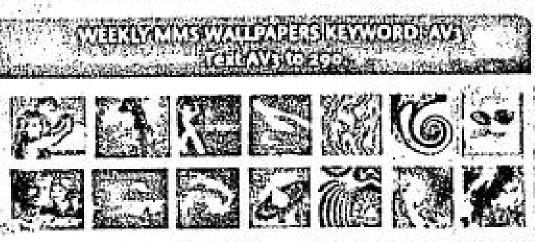

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RESIDENT EVIL
Good life
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THE NOTEBOOK
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WEEKLY POLYTONES KEYWORD: AV5

TITLE	ARTIST
Breathe	Telepopmusik
Slow	Kylie Minogue
Woman	Maroon 5
Let's Get It Started	Black Eyed Peas
Just the Way You Are	Milky
I Love the Nightlife	Alicia Bridges
Wake Me Up (Before You Go Go)	Wham!
Don't Give Up	Chicane
Just a Little While	Janet Jackson
Walking on Sunshine	Katrina and the Waves
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ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

Feng shui for healthy environment

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

THE IMPORTANCE given these days to the environment has permeated the consciousness of many professionals, architects, interior and landscape designers included. They are expressing their new ideas in such developments as Earth Homes or Self-Sufficient Homes, or farm estates, even flower farm communities.

The ideas are generally regarded as western in origin, although the search for harmony with nature has been going on for centuries in the East, mainly in China, through feng shui.

While feng shui covers just about everything under the sun, its attention to the location of objects (whether near mountains or rivers, for example), direction of the elements—wind, water, fire—and its stress on the energies of an unseen force called *ch'i* and yin and yang attributes, make it both science and art, as complicated—if not more—as horoscope or numerology readings.

We believe there is much in feng shui that could be used to help our environment. We are also told there is much mysticism involved, in which case feng shui may just be the right reference for anyone promoting environmental conservation and/or enhancement in the wilds as well as in homes.

Many advantages

We consulted interior designer Johnny Hubilla who has applied feng shui to some of his projects. He says feng shui offers many advantages, to homeowners in particular, and most of the time the rules are practical and sensible. He also referred me to other experts for more answers.

Feng shui aims "to enhance the energies of the surrounding environment as well as the immediate living and work space" (from Lilian Too's book, "Basic Feng Shui"). It is meant to help in the arrangement of buildings, rooms, furniture, trees, plants and roads for good fortune and happiness. One realizes that this is simply applying to human habitats the natural course of things in the wilderness.

The Chinese find symbolism for many things in nature. Where a natural landscape is affected by the shape and orientation of mountains, hills

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Networking, the SEP Way
SEP@NCBA

Saturday afternoons can be serene at the NCBA (National College of Business and the Arts) campus in Quezon City. Save for the spirited dance practice of some students, the only other rustling on the grounds for this day was a gusting September wind, cleaning off leaves and memories of a week gone past.

Indoors, more students were preparing for the weeks to come. Nearly 130 students listened to lecturers open up new worlds at the Emerald Hall, revealing successful secrets and techniques of the entrepreneur. "SMART's SEP lets students get the whole picture of business. It makes them more enterprising while giving them the total aspect of running a business—Marketing, Management, and Accountancy," says Mr. Jess Abloyan, lead faculty for NCBA's Accountancy program.

SEP is a timely response to the typical plight of new graduates who jockey for position in a dwindling job market.

"Government statistics show that about 97% of fresh graduates do not get employed right away," says Mr. Boy Martirez, Head of Personal Communications and Mobile Services for SMART. "We give that 97% a fighting chance since the corporate world cannot absorb them all."

Business in action, this is really what SEP is all about. And the students are only too aware of the edge this knowledge can give. Carmi Villanueva, 20, energetically scoots from her front row seat to her friends further back, exchanging notes and thoughts. "I really want to open a restaurant," says this BS Tourism major, "but SEP is giving me all sorts of entrepreneur possibilities. It all sounds very interesting."

Another fledgling BS Tourism entrepreneur, Jordan Dimatulac, 20 also wants to open his own restaurant someday. "But I really want to start a high-quality restaurant," he says, noting that every lofty goal starts with the first small steps. "SEP is very relevant to the business I want to enter, which is food." He had already taken down a flurry of notes.

Probably even more than business in action, SEP also gives students a framework of resources and knowledge in discovering the limitless possibilities of the self-made entrepreneur. There was a wide range of topics covered on this day, from entrepreneurial basics and case studies by Dean Danny Cabulay of FEU to a lecture from entrepreneur Geraldine Trias, who profitably markets her soap products. "Maganda ang connections na makukuha mo sa SEP," says Jefferson Luna, 20 together with his friends Noly Nadores, 20 and Emeriza Domingo, 19, all student organizers of SEP. More than anything, these students are networking with success.

Manny on Entrepreneurship

"We should not be afraid to set goals, take risks, hold on to our convictions, and build an arsenal of small successes -- even if that means occasional failure. Your past successes should convince you that it is possible to succeed in the future. Our failures tell us it is possible to survive – and move on."

-- Manuel V. Pangilinan,
PLDT and SMART Chairman

SMART SEP
Bu

Mr. Jess Abaloyan
"SEP gives students the whole scope of business"

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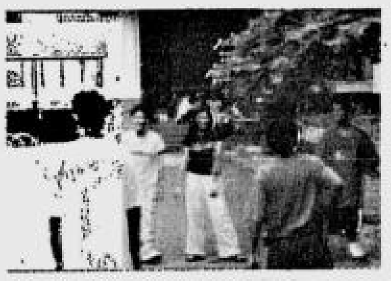
It's about the opportunities we provide.



A relaxed saturday at the NCBA campus

Learning soap making from successful entrepreneur Geraldine Trias

Student organizers for SEP Emeriza Domingo, Noly Nadores, and Jefferson Luna

Jordan Dimatulac & Carmina Villanueva, future restaurateurs

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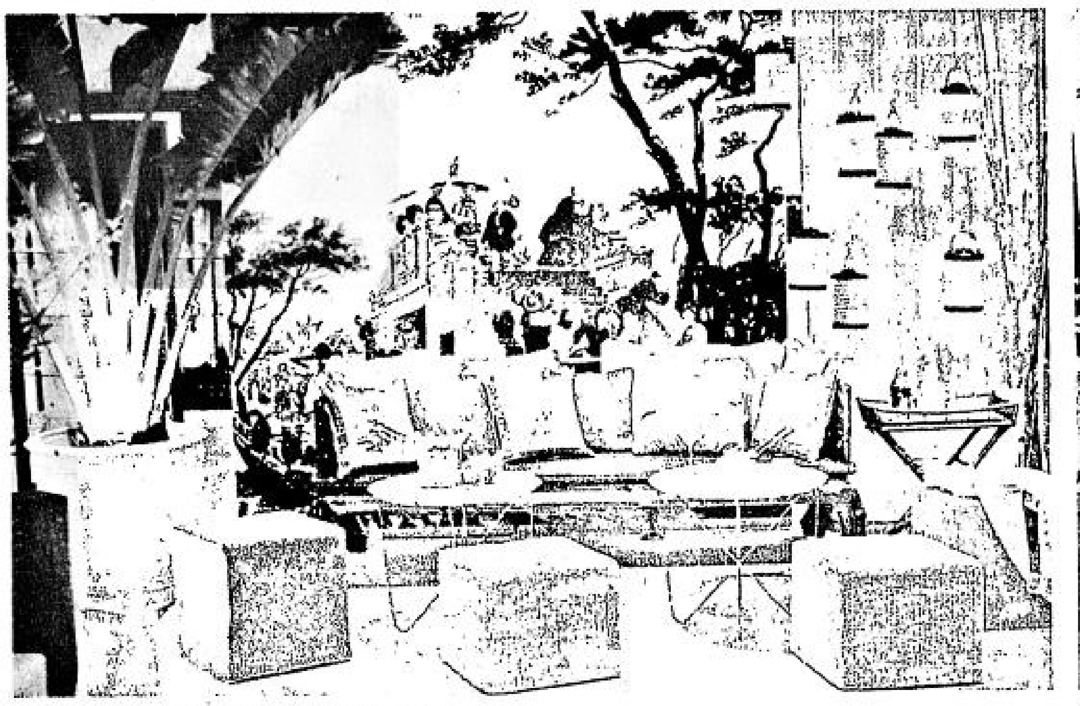
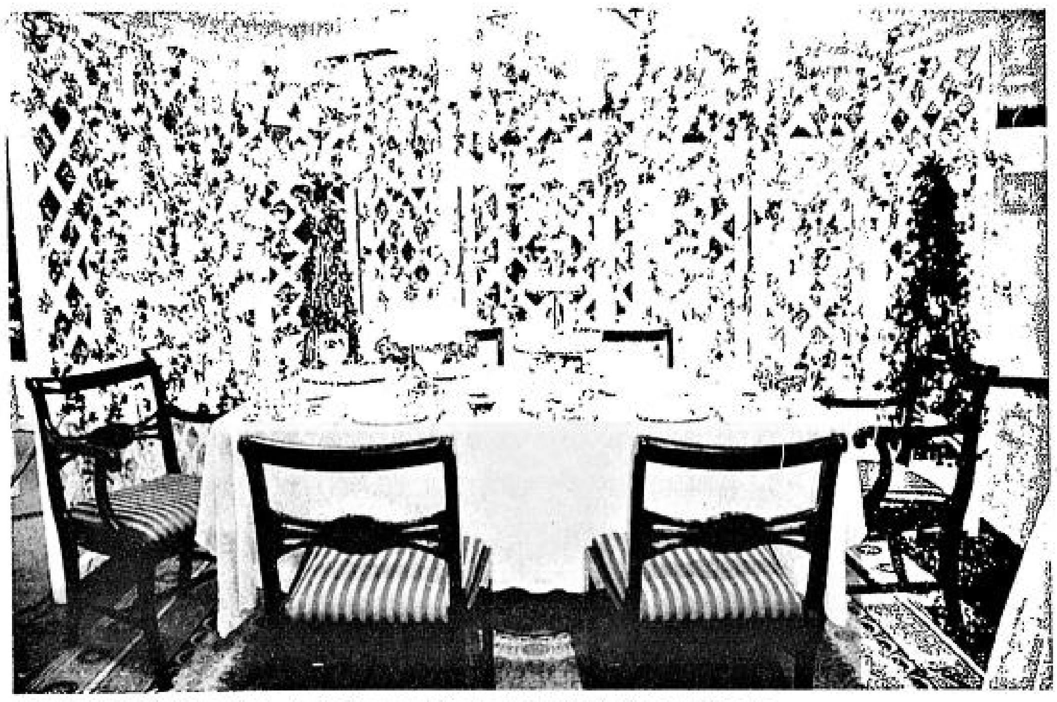
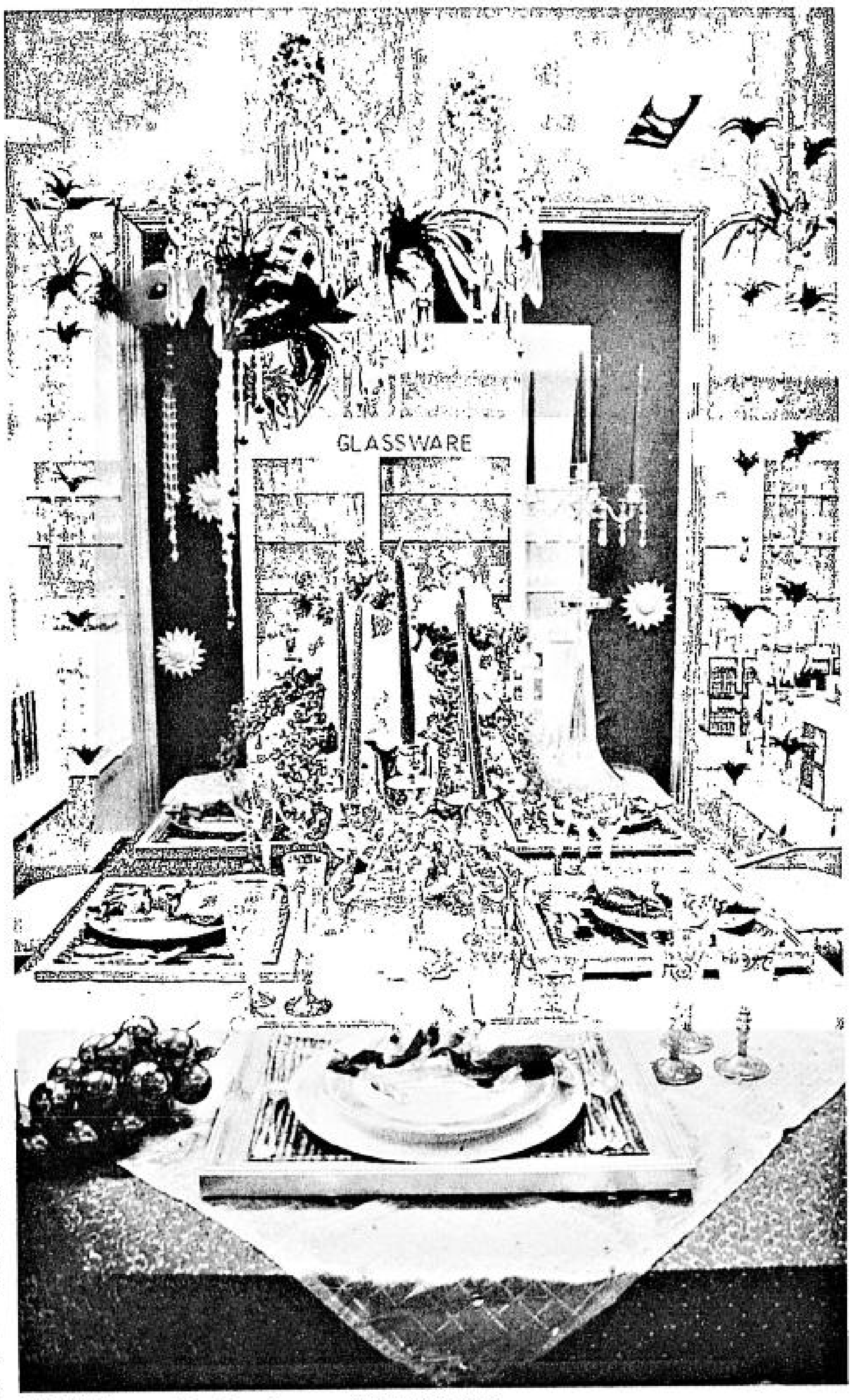

NEW Cathay by Miguel Rosales and Celine Lopez


AL FRESCO à la Victoria by Andy Vasquez Prada and Maricris Vasquez Prada

New party address

Top Manila designers and party animals conspire to lay out the perfect event zone

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina



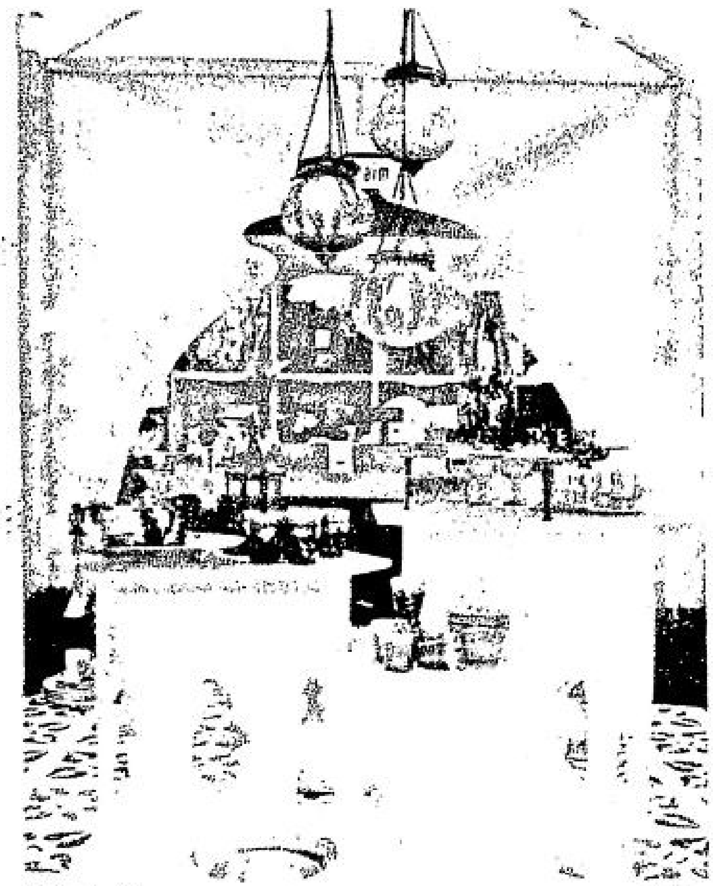
MARDI Gras magic by Evan Reyes and Criselda Lontok

WHAT happens when some of the country's top interior and furniture designers team up with Manila's foremost party animals? The result is a world without borders where celebrations are as colorful and as varied as the lands they were inspired from.

Rustan's goes virtually global by featuring the best of its local and imported items in an ongoing "Home Entertainer's Month" on the fourth level of its Makati branch. The exhibit features seven vignettes by the likes of Ito Kish, Miguel Rosales, Andy Vasquez Prada, Evan Reyes, Henj Tobias, Lynn Monroy, Ross Morante, Chito Vijandre and Ricky Toledo.

Apart from their design aesthetics, the vignettes are inspired by such places as China, Morocco, New Orleans, Japan, England and even Polynesia. Designers were asked to give their respective takes based on assigned themes. Like in previous exhibits, almost every featured item was sourced from Rustan's.

It probably takes a partygoer to probe into the mind of a party thrower. As if the varied themes and designers weren't enough, Rustan's tapped "experts" such as INQUIRER Lifestyle's Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Marina Vargas Tantoco, Celine Lopez, Bea Valdes, Criselda Lontok and Maricris Vasquez Prada.


MOROCCAN market by Ito Kish and Tessa Prieto-Valdes

Each woman collaborated with an artist in order to come up with a striking, but achievable and user-friendly display.

Prieto-Valdes, for instance, worked with Kish to create a Moroccan bazaar, never mind if not a single item came from Morocco.

"The display is a kaleidoscope of culture that can be Mediterranean, African and Spanish," says Kish. "We explored the whole concept of what Morocco is all about, but at the same time we wanted something more modern."

Thus, dark and traditional Moorish colors gave way to brighter shades, which is anchored on a stylized gazebo Kish himself designed. Three tables of varying sizes mirror the gazebo's color and design.

Exciting

"The range of colors basically mirrors Tessa's personality," he adds. "It's exciting and changeable."

The problem was Kish couldn't find any item from Morocco. This didn't stop him, however, as he made use of "Mediterranean-looking" items from Turkey, India and various countries in between. For added flavor, he spruced up the display with sacks of coffee beans from, where else, Rustan's Supermarket.

Morante, who teamed up with Tantoco, also veered from the traditional Zen by opting for iridescent orange instead of the usual white. He also adorned his display with floral arrangements that reminded us of anything but ikebana. Even the book leaf lamps had a modern feel to it.

Rosales and Lopez also went Modern Oriental. That's why in lieu of the traditional, the duo eschewed red and gold in favor of rust, pale yellow and celadon. The modernist touch extends to its neo-'50s tables and chairs. Apart from providing the display with a backdrop, an enlarged print imparts it with a color palette echoed by the furniture and accent pieces.

"The print, which was lifted from one of my books, became the starting point," says Rosales. "We had it enlarged. It isn't a literal translation of your typical Chinese display. At the same time we didn't go for Zen-like minimalism."

At the opposite end of the design spectrum is Vasquez Prada with a display teeming with crystal and porcelain pieces inspired by a Victorian parlor. A serving table covered with the same lace tablecloth as the main five-seater table completes the look. Pastel-colored cookies mimic the hues of the roses. This time, though, tea and cookies are best taken al fresco, as the setting simulated the outdoors.

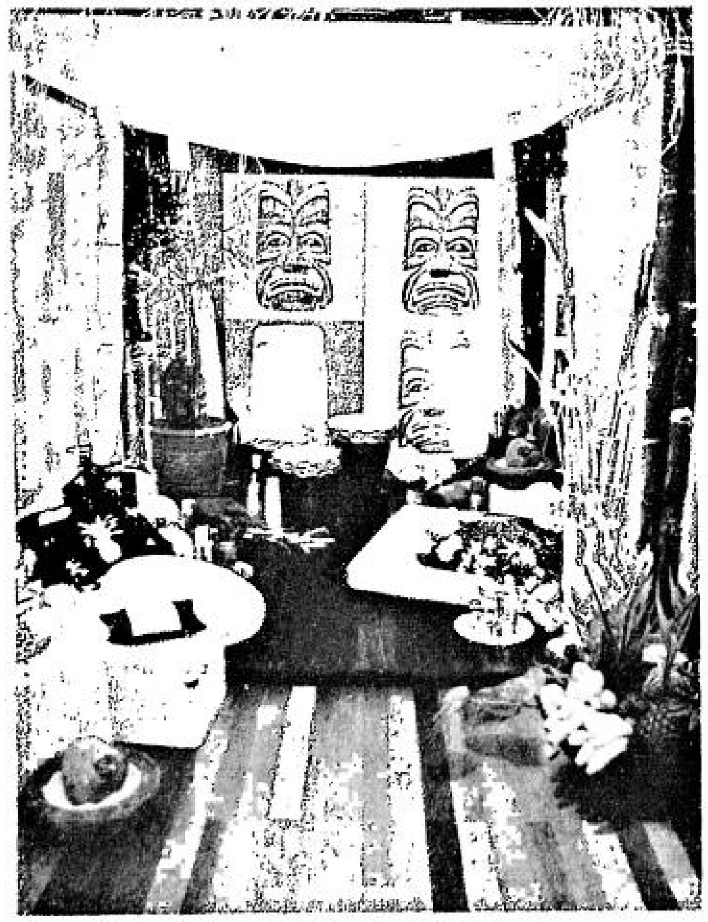
"It's my idea of a Victorian-inspired vignette," he says. "I tweaked it a little bit by putting what were supposed to be inside out. A dinner setting was out of the question and in its place is a tea party."

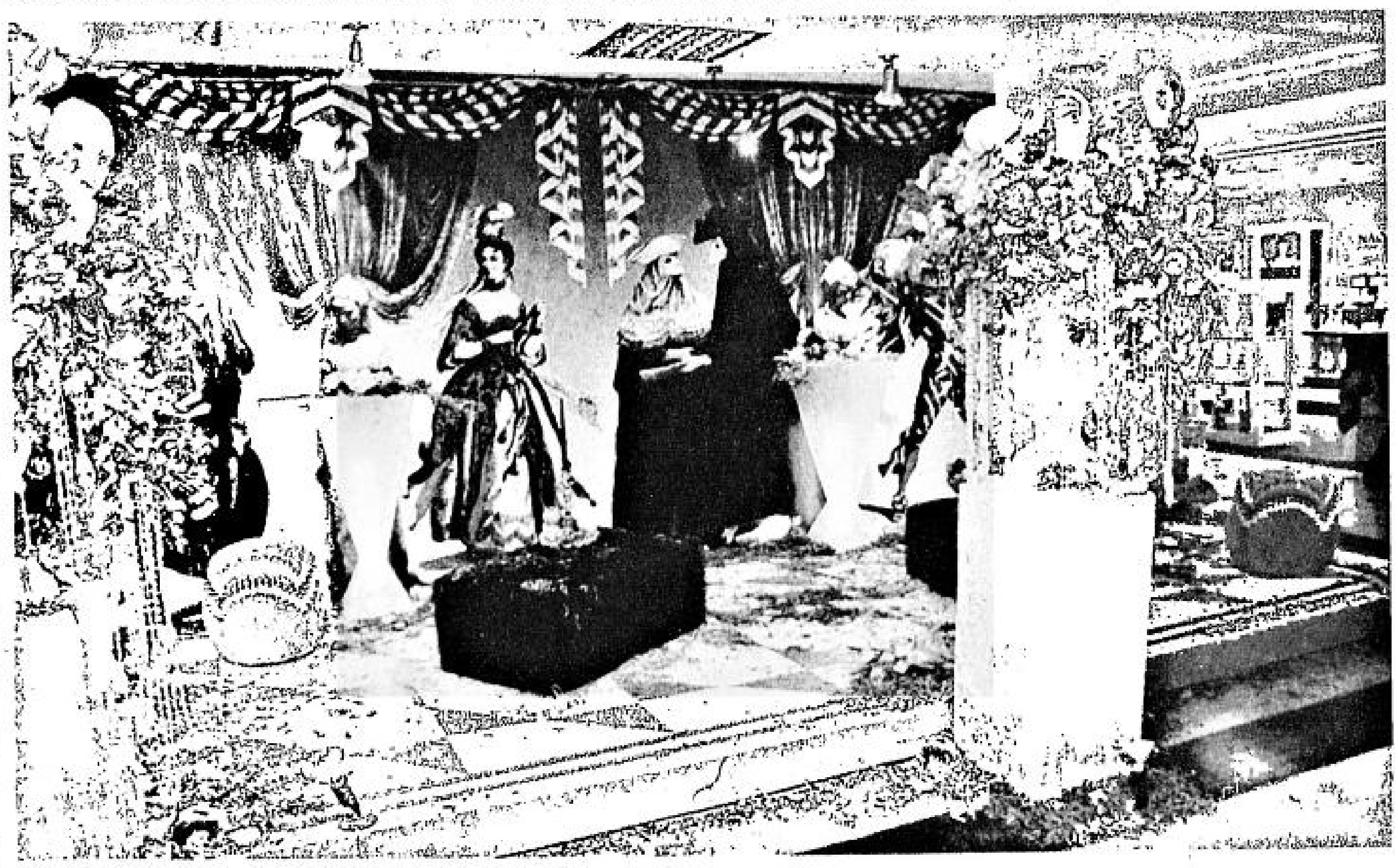
Reyes' take on a New Orleans dinner also teems with color. This time, however, he played with such opulent shades as purple, green and gold to evoke a sense of "mystery." While he made use of cascading beads, masks and feathers to achieve a Mardi Gras look, Lontok, his collaborator, took care of the display's floral arrangements.

"He came up with the foundation," says Lontok, "and I gave the look a feminine touch."

The party scene at Rustan's Makati will be on until Oct. 16. No invitation is required and "guests" are encouraged to buy gift items for themselves. Gift ideas are as numerous as the actual items found on the department store floor.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph


POLYNESIAN party by Henj Tobias and Lynn Monroy


ROYAL ball by Ricky Toledo, Chito Vijandre and Bea Valdes

Feng shui for healthy environment

From page E1

and rivers, in a modern urban setting, tall buildings become mountains, and roads become rivers. The energies generated by natural formations hold true also for their substitutes. So what is taboo for buildings and roads, could be taboo for their natural counterparts.

Indoor-outdoor ambience

Hubilla says there is much in feng shui that calls for indoor-outdoor ambience in a home. Air, for instance, must enter through the main door, made to circulate in the living room, flow in curves and turns to generate the right energy (*ch'i*), move gently to the hallway, and out the back door. To generate the right energy, the air must be clean. Hubilla asks: Is that not what we all need?

Trees and plants have particular roles to play, and their value in an urban setting is considerable. According to Sarah Rossbach, a feng shui consultant and author of "Interior Design with Feng Shui," the bad energies caused by a taller building standing next to your house, can be offset by growing trees along the border of the two properties, or putting plants or a fountain along the border. One who believes this and in the efficacy of growing green things, will surely wonder how much bad energy is generated in areas in Metro Manila where trees have been mindlessly cut.

Trees, says Rossbach, protect against strong winds or traffic noise and pollution. They shield ominous sights, like graveyards. "On a hill, trees and bushes prevent erosion of rich soils or even mudslides." Plants with vibrant green leaves are signs of good, nurturing energy. As a living entity, adds Rossbach, a tree, by its mere presence, enhances the good energy of the area. Trees can be used, she says, to balance an awkward plot or building shape. They can also bring harmony to a plot of land that is too large for the house.

Inhibiting 'ch'i'

On the other hand, poor placement—trees directly in front of a house's entrance or window—can inhibit the flow of incoming *ch'i* so residents will not be protected from dangers that may arise.

The best trees to grow in a home plot, says Too, are bamboo and juniper pine. A clump of bamboo in the garden signifies good health and longevity for the resident. The pine tree, which resembles an arrow pointed upward, also symbolizes longevity.

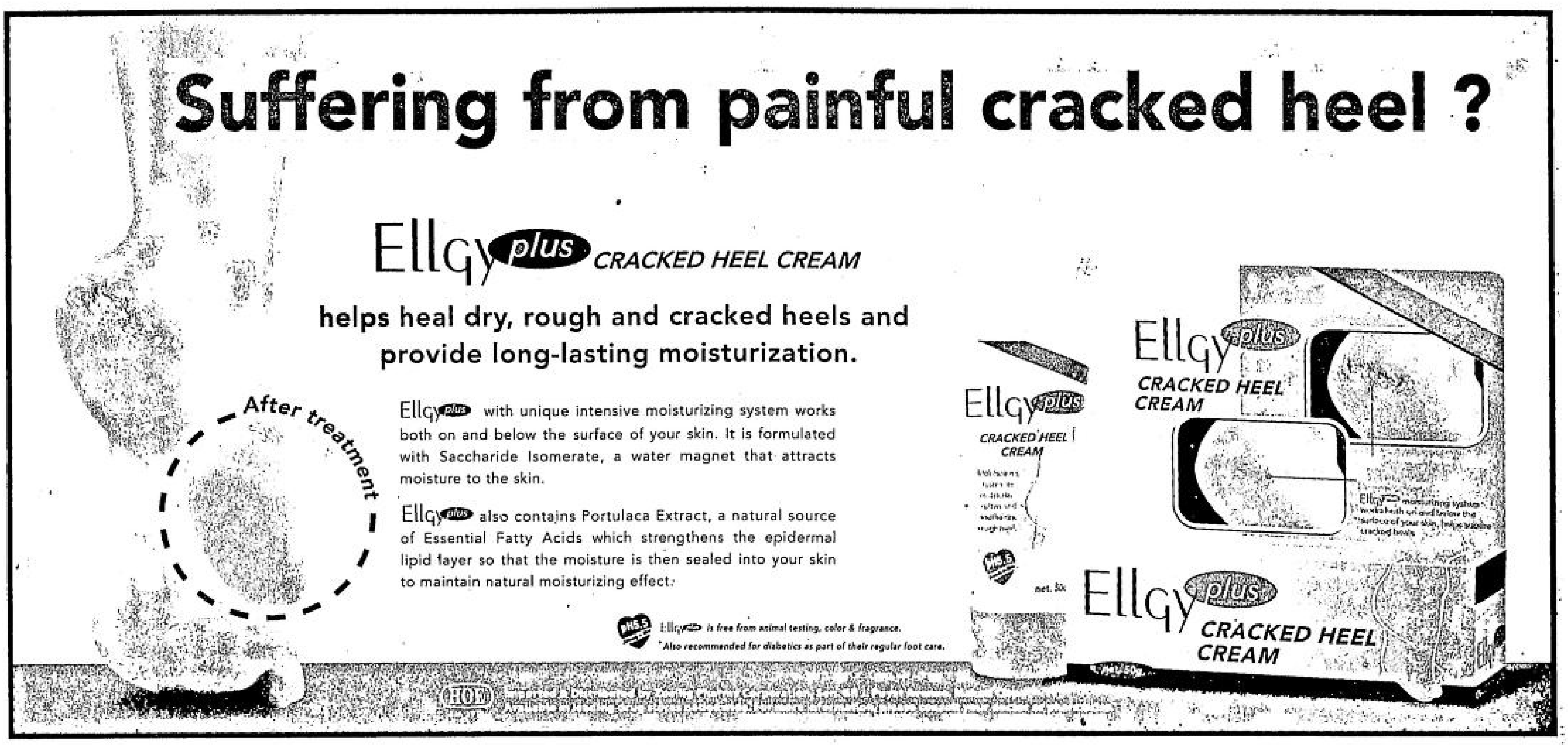
Don't drive away the creatures you find in your garden, she says, like frogs, turtles, roosters. Fish are good to have in ponds, especially carp and goldfish, and birds should be allowed to fly in and out. They should not be kept in cages.

The garden can be enhanced by water features like landscaped ponds, artificial waterfalls, streams, fountains and birdbaths, which often can be built as do-it-yourself projects that will not cost much.

These are only some of the ways feng shui works for the environment. Most of these ways follow that of nature so good energies are generated. It is also obvious that feng shui sees nature as nurturing and protecting and so demands that nature receives the same treatment.

It is a big feng shui no-no to have tree stumps in the garden or anywhere near it because they represent bad omen. Isn't this true of a denuded forest?

Contact writer at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com.



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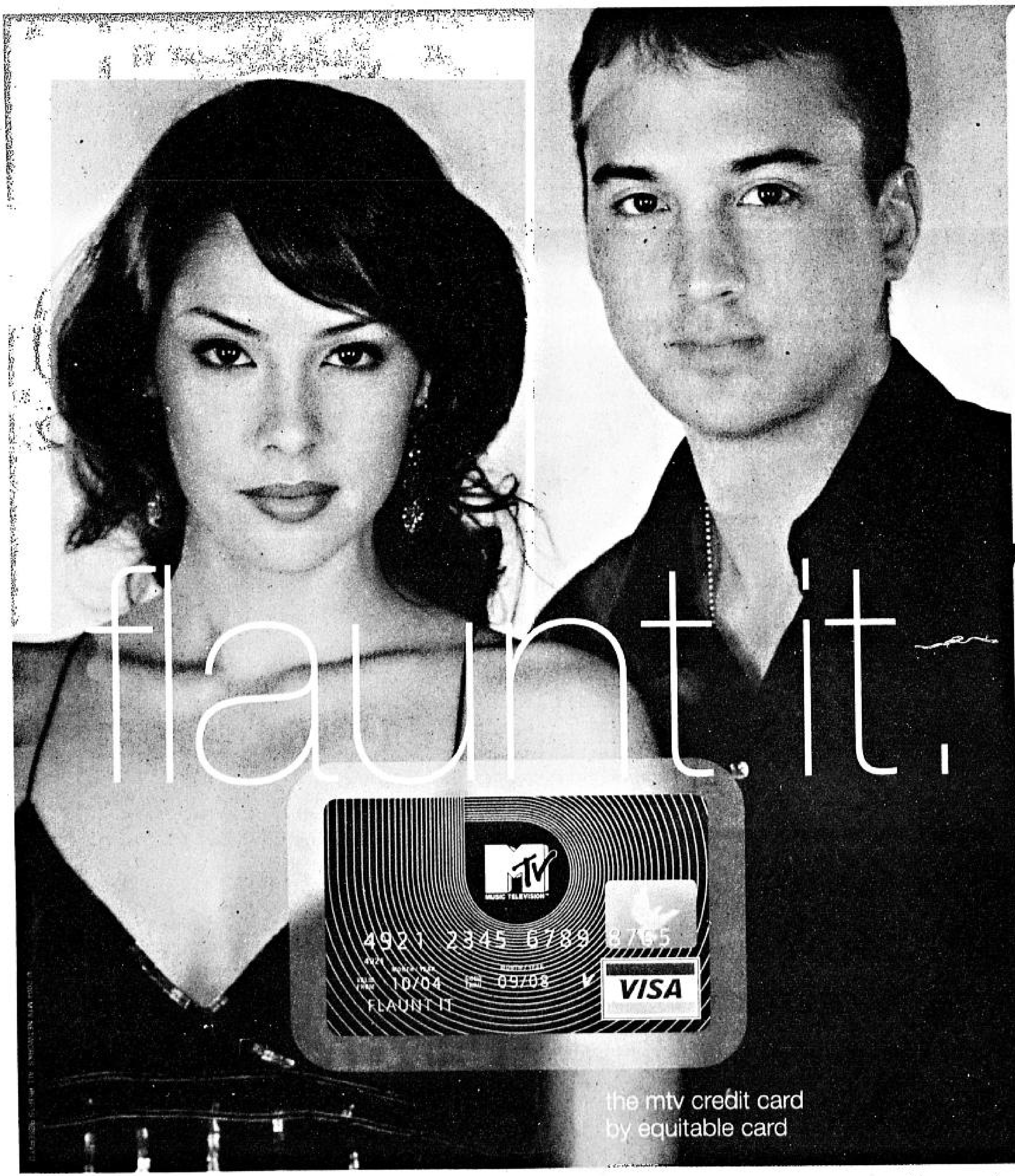

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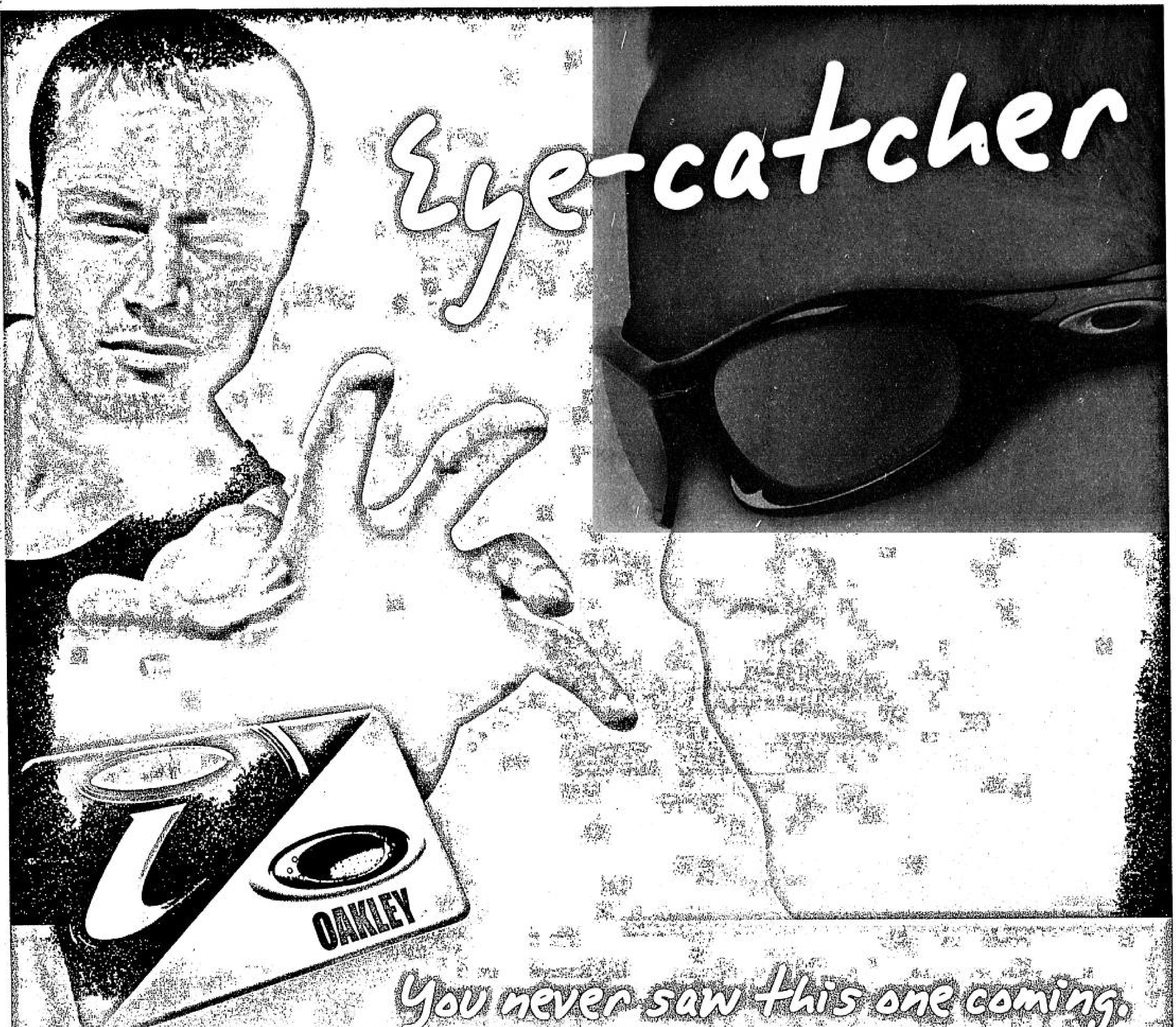
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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2004. Promo period is from October 1 to November [illegible], 2004

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CONSUMABLE PLAN VALUE	P800	P1,200	P1,800	P2,500	P3,500	P5,000
FREE MMS & GPRS	P150	P190	P225	P250	P275	P275
FREE TEXT MESSAGES	50	60	75	100	125	125
ADDICT TO ADDICT/SMART	P6.50	P6.00	P5.00	P4.50	P4.00	P4.00
ADDICT TO NON-SMART	P7.00	P6.50	P6.00	P5.50	P4.50	P4.50
ADDICT IDD	$0.40					
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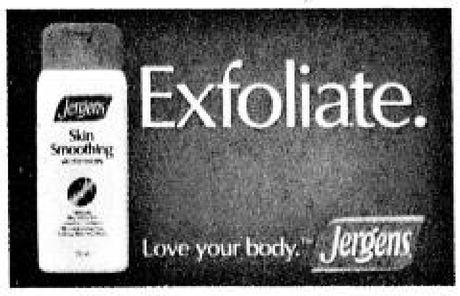

Jergens Skin Smoothing
Exfoliate.
Love your body.™ Jergens

Feather-crazy as ever, but sans stretch marks

FREEWAY JUDGING. Sea Princess, Tim Yap, G Töngi, Angeli Valenciano, Verwin Gatpantan, Rajo Laurel, Freeway owners Sheree Gotuaco, Katty Qua and Celine Lopez

> Vera Wang's gowns were too simple for my taste. No feathers!

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

THE ADVERTISING industry has come a long way since Coca Cola was The Real Thing. I can still remember switching channels while watching "Charlie's Angels" whenever there would be an ad break. The younger set may not know it, but the movie began as a TV series!

FEATHER/ F2

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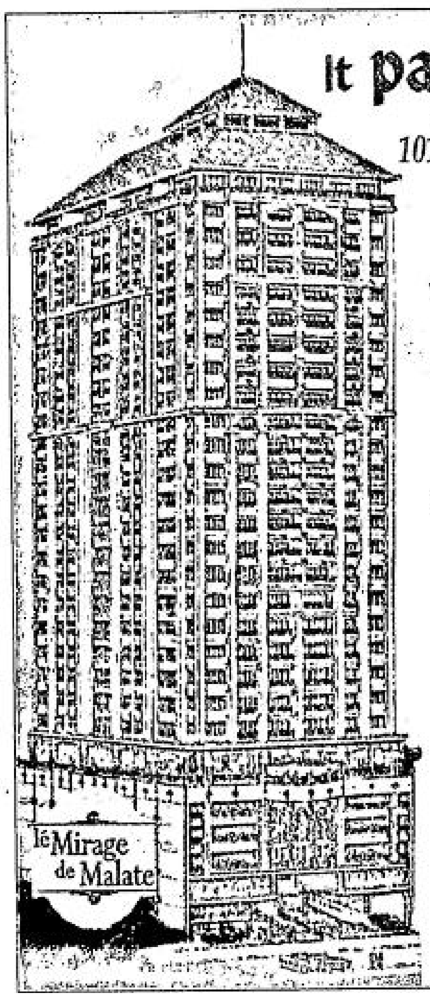

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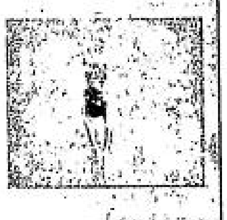
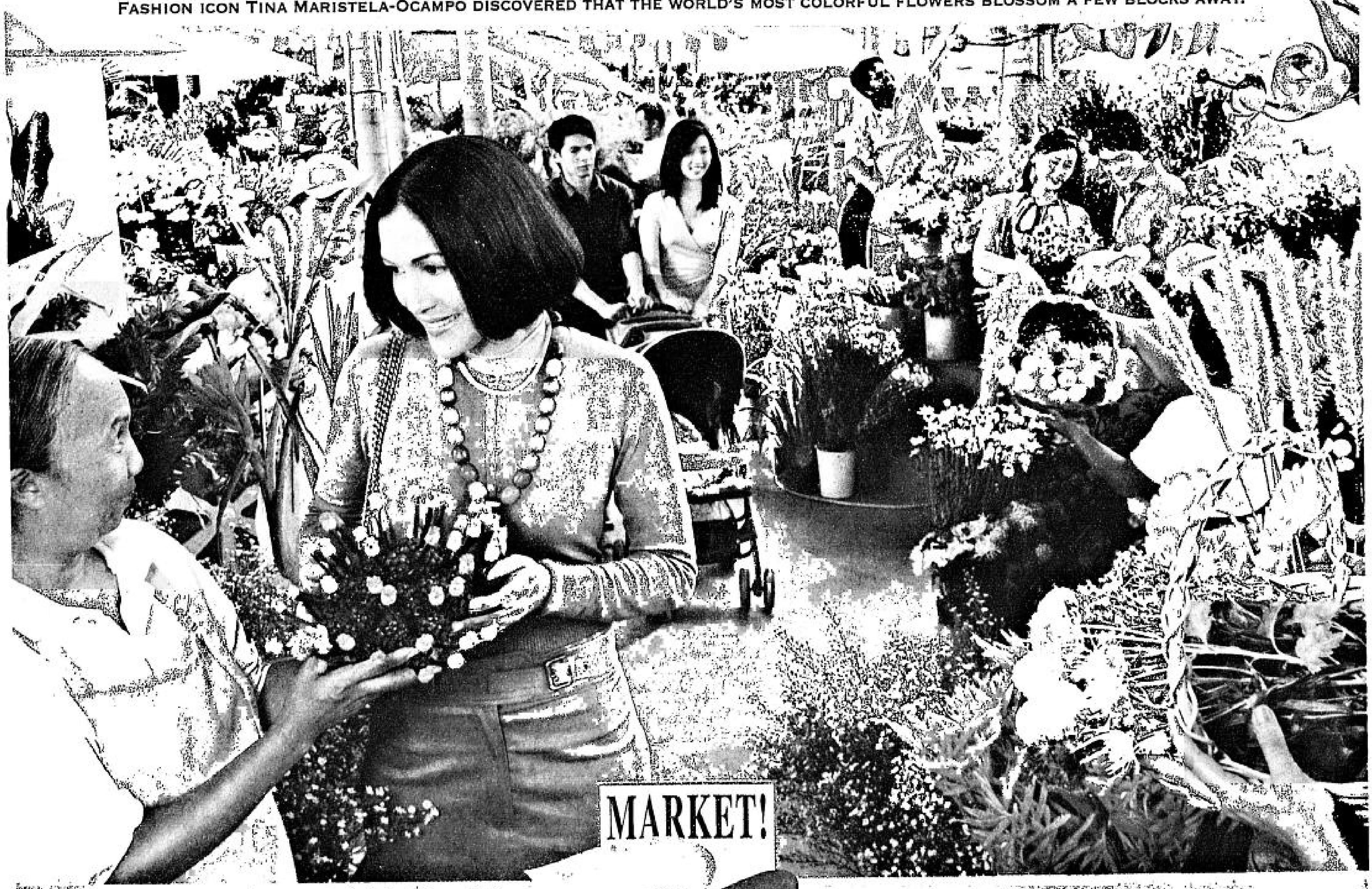
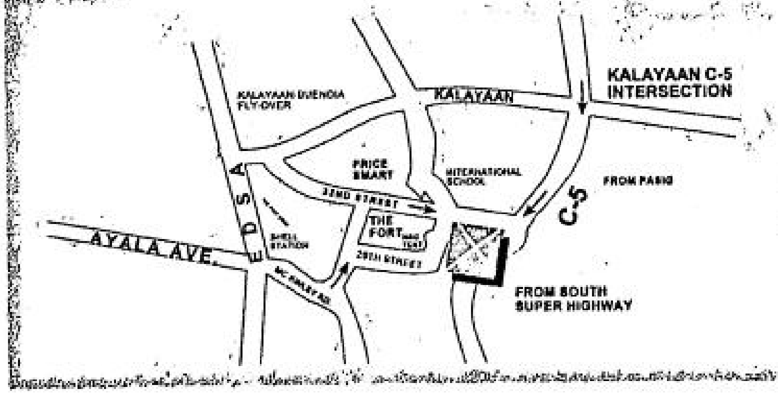


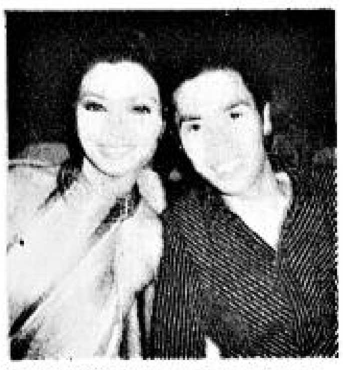
FASHION ICON TINA MARISTELA-OCAMPO DISCOVERED THAT THE WORLD'S MOST COLORFUL FLOWERS BLOSSOM A FEW BLOCKS AWAY.





MARKET!
MARKET!
Bonifacio Global City
The fun is in the finds
Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.
Another retail innovation.

THE WOMAN BEHIND FASHION STORES LIKE THE BLACK SHOP, ANONYMOUS AND MIX SHOPS REGULARLY AT MARKET! MARKET! HERE SHE PLUCKS THOUSANDS OF FINDS FROM FLOWERS TO FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO ALMOST ANYTHING COLORFUL. NO WONDER TINA'S BLOOMING THESE DAYS.


SUPERMODEL and mom Rissa Samson with hubby Marzo

AMEX country manager Wellington Ong and lovely wife Helen

FUN couple Maryanne and Francis Lumen

RUSTAN'S top bosses Rico and Joel Tantoco

PLAY Underground couple Jeena and Ernie Lopez

KISH owner Ito Kish with Ambassador Bienvenido Tantoco

Feather-crazy as ever, but sans stretch marks

From page F1

Today with the marketing trade getting so competitive, local commercials have become so catchy and interesting to watch. I used to think ads were still in the **Rod Navarro** era of 680 stand fans and gas stoves but now, the range of products advertised on TV is just amazing.

The deodorant business has a great budget for airtime. Ditto with soaps, shampoos and other stuff euphemistically called "personal care." One such campaign is the Vaseline lotion ad with pretty model-mom **Rissa Samson** in it. The story line is that with the special powers of the lotion, stretch marks will disappear so the mother is free to wear a sexy bikini. The final scene has her lean, statuesque body outstretched as she plunges into a kiddie pool.

The ad was so persuasive, I almost called Dr. **Vicki Belo** about her laser treatment for stretch marks. Although I don't think I will ever attain Rissa's flat tummy with no visible stretch marks, I thought at least I could do something about my marks and perhaps even purchase the lotion. Another hundred or so repeat ads and I will be sure to head over to Mercury Drug!

I caught the ad while hanging out with my daughter, **Annika**, who was watching "Marina" on ABS-CBN. For those unfamiliar with local TV shows, "Marina" is a daily soap series where the main characters are mermaids. As the series is in Tagalog, Annika gets a running translation from her Bisaya nanny, which is hilarious to listen to.

Charity run

Speaking of this network, it's wonderful that Knowledge Channel president **Rina Lopez Bautista** got **Piolo Pascual** and the rest of their stars to walk for a cause on Oct. 10 from the People Power Monument to Ultra. This event aims to raise funds to improve public school education.

SEXY G Töngi and The Hotlegs at the Freeway Dance Face-Off contest

THE FREEWAY dance winners: UP Diliman Street Dance Club and Miriam College HS Sayawatha

DASHING Rustom Padilla and Joby Belmonte of Urban Effects with Ito Kish

LEANER and meaner Rajo Laurel with L'Oreal's Leica Carpo and Dael Escueta

GORGEOUS models of PR pro Keren Pascual with lucky Ces Drilon in the middle

On GMA, they have their own version of this *teleserye* called "Mulawin." This show has eagles and other winged creatures as characters. I have always wondered why, whenever I walk in the mall or go shopping in my favorite bargain den Divisoria, I hear people calling me Mulawin. Then I realize it's because of all the feathered accent pieces I wear.

The impact of media is boundless but the viewer's attention span is so short that they need to be caught within the first few seconds. This is also true for the invitations I get to the different events, soirees and parties happening all over our city. Creativity is the key to capturing my attention to attend the function, otherwise the invitation "self-destructs in 30 seconds."

Even product launches today have moved beyond the usual curtain-raising to unveil the merchandise. For instance, the recent launch of American Express' Peso Platinum Card featured a fashion show of **Vera Wang**'s ready-to-wear line with an astounding set-up by fashion director genius **Ariel Lozada**, who transformed the Makati Shangri-La's Rizal Ballroom into a giant lit bar and a fashion ramp. Everything needs pizzazz to keep the consumer's attention.

For the Rustan's Home Entertainer's Month launch, the invitation was in a gold box with seven prints of the different vignettes showcasing the power brands that are available in Rustan's. I was asked to host a Mediterranean-inspired vignette with the colorful, exotic market setting executed by the imaginative **Ito Kish**.

Other vignettes included a Victorian parlor featuring a fully costumed tsar sitting in the boudoir. With Firma Makati duo **Chito Vijandre** and **Ricky Toledo** teaming up with **Bea Valdes** for that grand vignette, the drama never ends.

Hanging out with boys

I had to rush from the Rustan's event in my **Rajo Laurel**, ethnic-styled, belly dancing couture gown, which ensured a noisy entrance to the Amex-Vera Wang show. Though the clothes were too simple for my taste (no feathers and loud colors), they were elegantly styled by Just Shop wiz **Jenni Epperson** using **Jul Dizon** jewelry.

STYLE goddesses Mia Borromeo, Tina Ocampo and Sandy Poblador

SHIPPING tycoon Robbie Delgado, Minky Bautista of Amex and Anonymous man Ricco Ocampo

FIRMA guru Ricky Toledo, Amanpulo manager Karen McNally, Frances Lim and Chito Vijandre

YOUNG and cool Natasha Drilon, Daniel Romero-Salas, Jamie Moore and Thea Jacinto

These gowns together with other fashionable foreigner designers will have a permanent place in the new **Tina M. Ocampo** shop called M at Greenbelt 4. With this stylish lady behind the shop, Manila's Cosmo girls have another option for fashion shopping.

After the show, small artworks of **Bernard Pacquing** were distributed to guests by the hottest male models of PR guru **Keren Pascual**. Everyone was busy with the Peking duck so I just hung around with Keren's boys who are so tall and good-looking. It made me realize why older women are so attracted to younger men: there were the answers right in front of me that evening.

I would never have thought that the combination of a credit-card launch and a fashion show would be a smashing hit. But the ad agencies are getting more and more inventive and thinking out of the proverbial box. Take the casual, ready-to-wear shop called Freeway. They get their image model **G Töngi** to propel them into the mainstream billboard row and for their main event, have a dance face-off contest.

Petite, hard-working owner **Katty Qua** had approached me after our Manila Polo swimming feat a few months ago and asked if I could be a judge. Little did I know that the event was an enormous thing among college and high school students. With more than 10 dance troupes from different schools competing, the main arena of SM Megamall was packed, with spectators overlooking from all five floors.

The semifinalists were ultra-synchronized and their outfits were spectacular (one even had lights on them), it was so difficult to judge. Their stunts looked so unbelievable, even for me with my yoga background. I really felt stiff and old! But I made sure my voluminous canary-yellow skirt and sequined top by co-judge Rajo kept my spirits up.

Though I am in my midlife phase, I still marvel at the wonders that anyone can do at any age. Like thousands of Filipinos, I have gotten myself into badminton. In fact, my Assumption Batch '81 fund-raiser event this year was a badminton tourney, which was held yesterday at the new Zone courts in Makati.

I am so thankful to the many sponsors whose arms our batch has twisted into supporting our event. Despite the gazillions they spend on advertising, they've found a little more in their marketing hearts to support the Assumption. Now that is truly The Real Thing!

E-mail seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

ASSUMPTION HS '81 in Adidas outfits, posing with a Volvo at the Zone Badminton Courts

They're all a year older

IT'S been one birthday party after another. On the Feast of Our Lady of the Angels, the celebrator was Angelita Jones Lhuillier, who marked the occasion with an elegant gourmet dinner at the ballroom of the Marriott Hotel. Family and dear friends came to wish her many happy returns of the day and to enjoy a show put together by **Val Sandiego.**

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

It was a double celebration, as it was also the wedding anniversary of Angelita's dear children, **Michel** and **Amparito Lhuillier.** They maintain a foundation granting scholarships to students in the performing arts. One of them, **Anna Fegi,** has become a success, and so she came to sing for the celebrators and guests. But did she have to shout so much? It's a great voice, though.

Earning her share of the felicitations was Angelita's eldest daughter, **Angeles Mathieu,** who was celebrating her own feast day. A few days later was the birthday of youngest daughter **Margie Lhuillier,** who flew in from Las Vegas for her mom's party.

Margie's celebration was in Hong Kong with her children—**Chris** and **Kathy Darza, Claudine** and **Mikel Ugarte.** In Cebu, her friends organized an *asalto* for her at the Cowrie Cove of the Shangri-La in Mactan.

Two birthdays

The birthdays of prominent businessman **Go Ching Hai** and his civic leader wife, **Beling Lim Go,** are only days apart, but they celebrate both occasions. Go Ching Hai's was a grand dinner at the Country Club. Most of the ladies wore red silk. Dance numbers were presented by only son **Edward Hayco** and his svelte wife **Eleanor.** Beling had a luncheon at the Port Seafood restaurant, exclusive to ladies.

Youthful at 80

Paqui Melendez de Aboitiz is so dazzlingly beautiful she sort of gets tickled when she sees the expressions on her friends' faces when she tells them she's 80—and as hale and healthy as can be. Low-key as ever, she did not want any fuss for her 80th birthday, but her children insisted on a celebration. **Jon, Bobby, Mikel** and **Diana,** with their respective spouses, set the date and everyone came.

It was at the home of **Bobby** and **Marian** in Maria Luisa Park. Cocktails and delicious tidbits were served at the palm patio; dinner at the terrace where Café Laguna set up a buffet of the most luscious seafood, as only found in the Visayan seas. A week later, Paqui and her sister **Quina Melendez** were off on their annual journey to California, where daughter Diana lives, then to Madrid where they have an apartment. They'll return in December.

AT LA Gondola, Chinggay de Veyra Utzurrum gets a birthday cake. Looking on are husband Joe (left) and their son Marquitos (right), while chef Nick Anderson watches from behind.

BIRTHDAY girl Angelita Lhuillier with son Michel and daughter Margie

Days of happiness

The Happiness Group has been celebrating birthdays in the gang in quick succession. **Geñing Solano**'s was at her home in Beverly Hills. She and husband Dr. **Ramon Solano** were surrounded by their children and close friends. Cynosure of all eyes and object of a sharp carving knife was the Virginia Ham on a platter, lugged all the way from... where else?

Viring Romoff, Cebu's fashion czarina, is quite a down-to-earth person and is very well loved by people from all walks of life. She still lives and works in her home on an interior road along the Jones area. She stopped counting years after she hit 80, and she says that was some time ago.

Her special day started with an early *mañanita* and progressed to an elaborate luncheon, a festive *merienda,* and an evening bash for everyone in her *barangay*. Why count the *lechons* that were served?

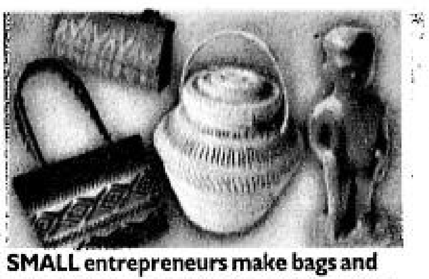
For one special member of the Happiness Group, **Milagring Borromeo,** another **Milagring (Sembrano)** organized a dinner at the Casino Español. Its Spanish cuisine remains unbeatable.

Birthday group

Another group that celebrates birthdays calls itself simply "The Group." Ladies are feted, with everyone contributing to the party; the gentlemen have to treat everyone when it is their turn. For **Chinggay de Veyra Utzurrum,** it had to be very special. She chose La Gondola at the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel. Chef **Nick Anderson** prepared a special degustation menu.

BELING and Go Ching Hai's birthdays are only days apart.

When the birthdays of **Chona Bernad** and **Cecilia Rodriguez** (same day, different years) came, they said it was so good at La Gondola, could they have their party there, too, please? This time no menu was prepared; everyone ordered something different from a card that was changed recently with the addition of specialties. Even just a salad at La Gondola can be presented like a masterpiece. Think about the four-cheese pizza. Oh!



SMALL entrepreneurs make bags and wallets from abaca waste, woodcarving and other items.

Trade fair for a cause

THE SM Livelihood Center showcases and tries to raise the public's consciousness of micro entrepreneurial products in the country.

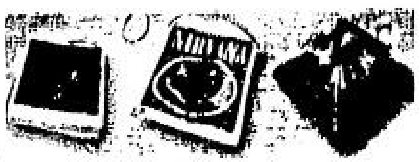
The "trade fair" is ongoing at SM Bacoor until Oct. 15. It is a brainchild of the Philippine Business for Social Progress with the SM Foundation and the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF).

Participating at the SM Livelihood Center are some of the communities supported by PEF. They offer Metro Manilans a wide array of world-class Philippine handicrafts at popular prices. ADF from Antique specializes in *bariw* handbags, while Ascode from Bicol has turned waste product from abaca processing into bags and wallets.

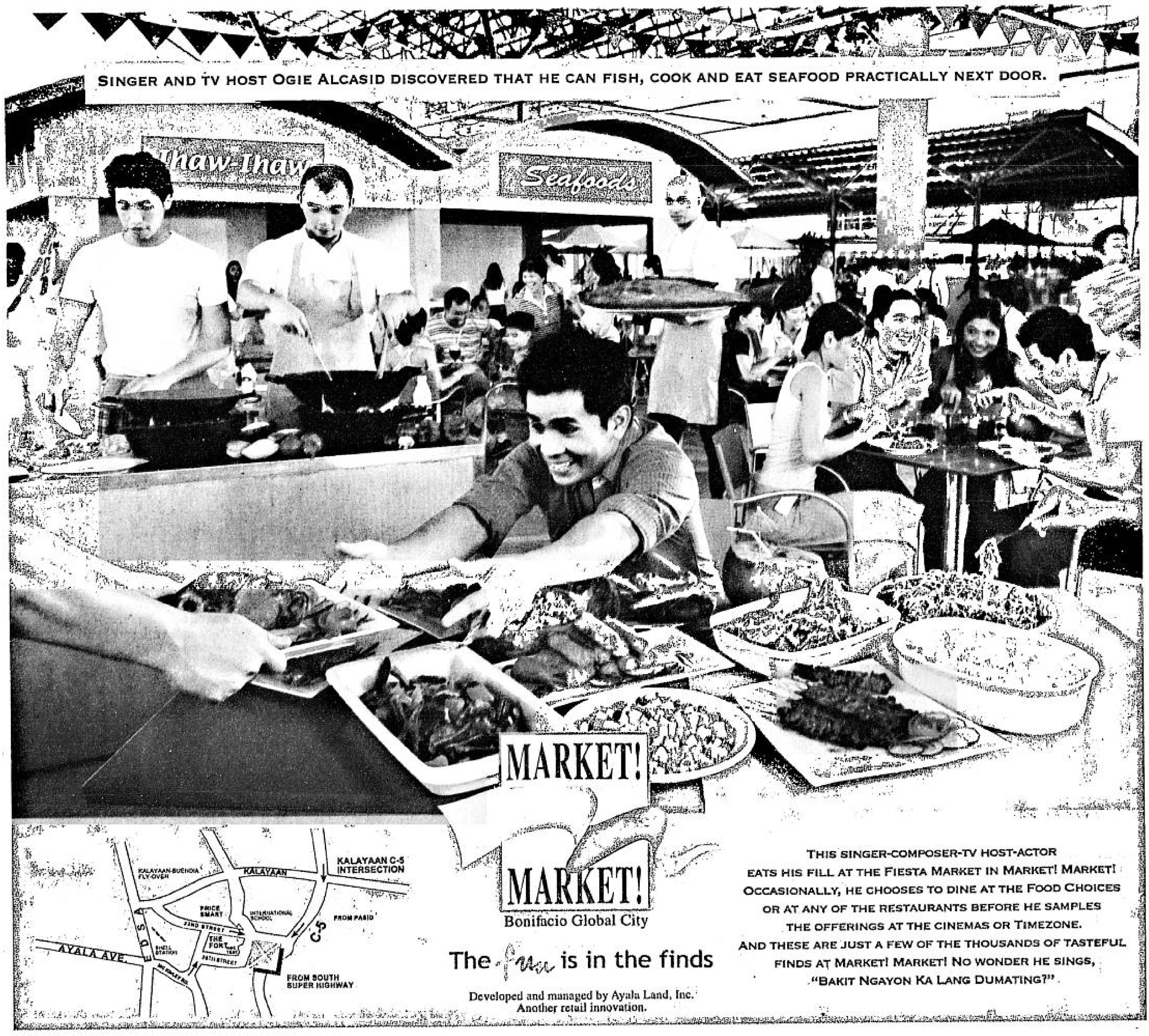
Bahandi from Eastern Samar uses coco fiber for planters. CSDO and Cowhed from South Cotabato and Lake Sebu, respectively, specialize in *tinalak,* bamboo and beaded products.

JVOFI from Baguio carry pieces made by master Ifugao woodcarvers. Natripal from Palawan has woven *nito* baskets and delicate wooden carvings by the province's three major ethnic minorities—Tagbanua, Batak and Palawan. Baba's from Davao offers products in *batik* prints and Thai silk.

PEF, which is "reaching the poorest communities," helps provide supplementary income to the small entrepreneurs by bringing their products to a bigger market.



POOR communities earn additional income from the handicrafts they make.



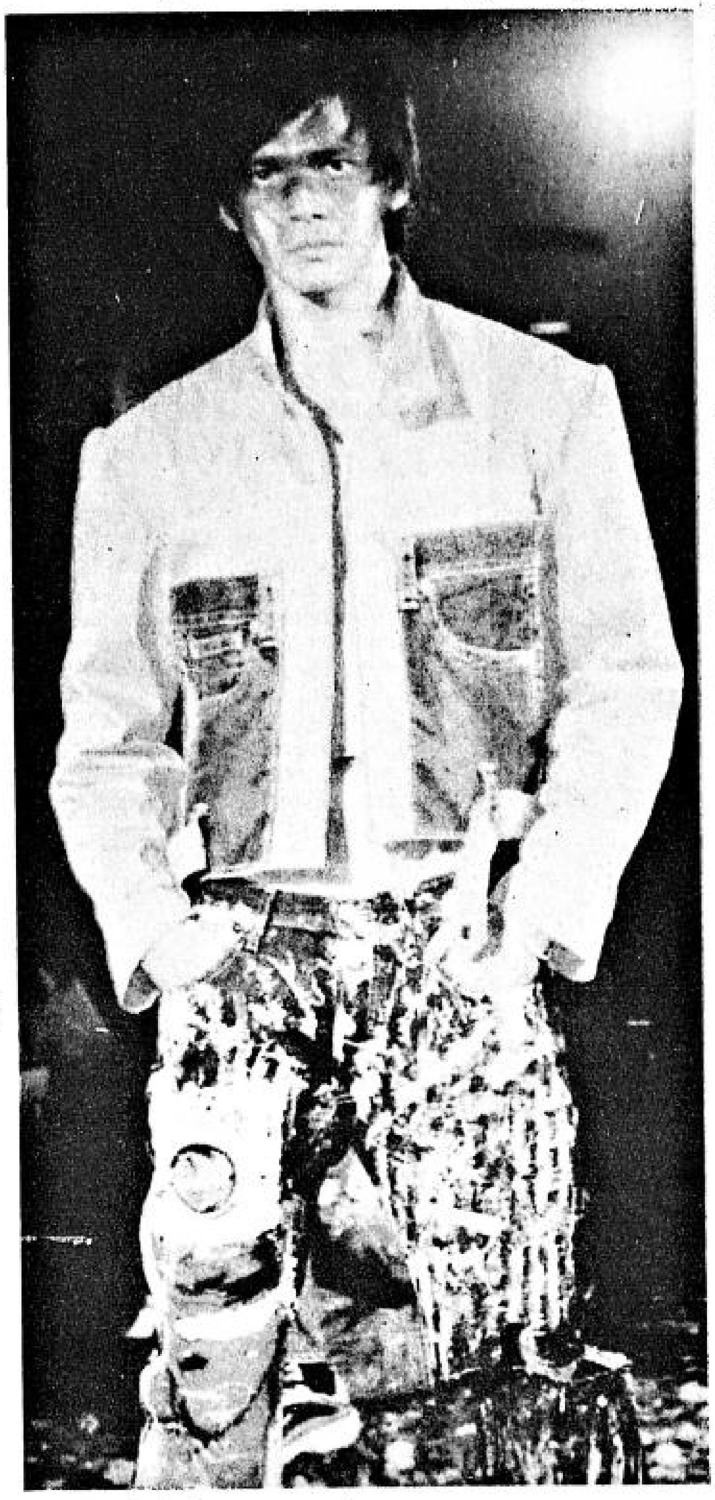
SINGER AND TV HOST OGIE ALCASID DISCOVERED THAT HE CAN FISH, COOK AND EAT SEAFOOD PRACTICALLY NEXT DOOR.

MARKET! MARKET!
Bonifacio Global City

The fun is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.
Another retail innovation.

THIS SINGER-COMPOSER-TV HOST-ACTOR EATS HIS FILL AT THE FIESTA MARKET IN MARKET! MARKET! OCCASIONALLY, HE CHOOSES TO DINE AT THE FOOD CHOICES OR AT ANY OF THE RESTAURANTS BEFORE HE SAMPLES THE OFFERINGS AT THE CINEMAS OR TIMEZONE. AND THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE THOUSANDS OF TASTEFUL FINDS AT MARKET! MARKET! NO WONDER HE SINGS, "BAKIT NGAYON KA LANG DUMATING?"



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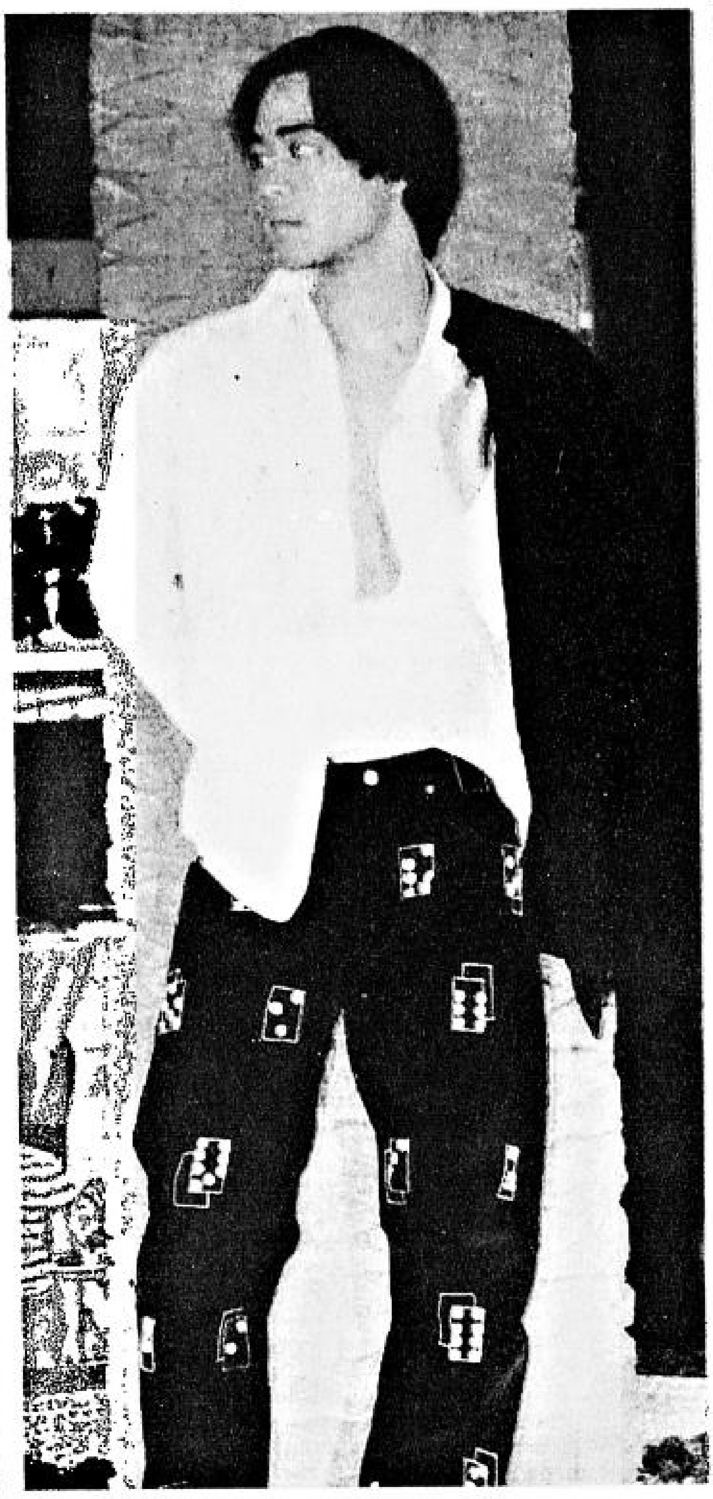
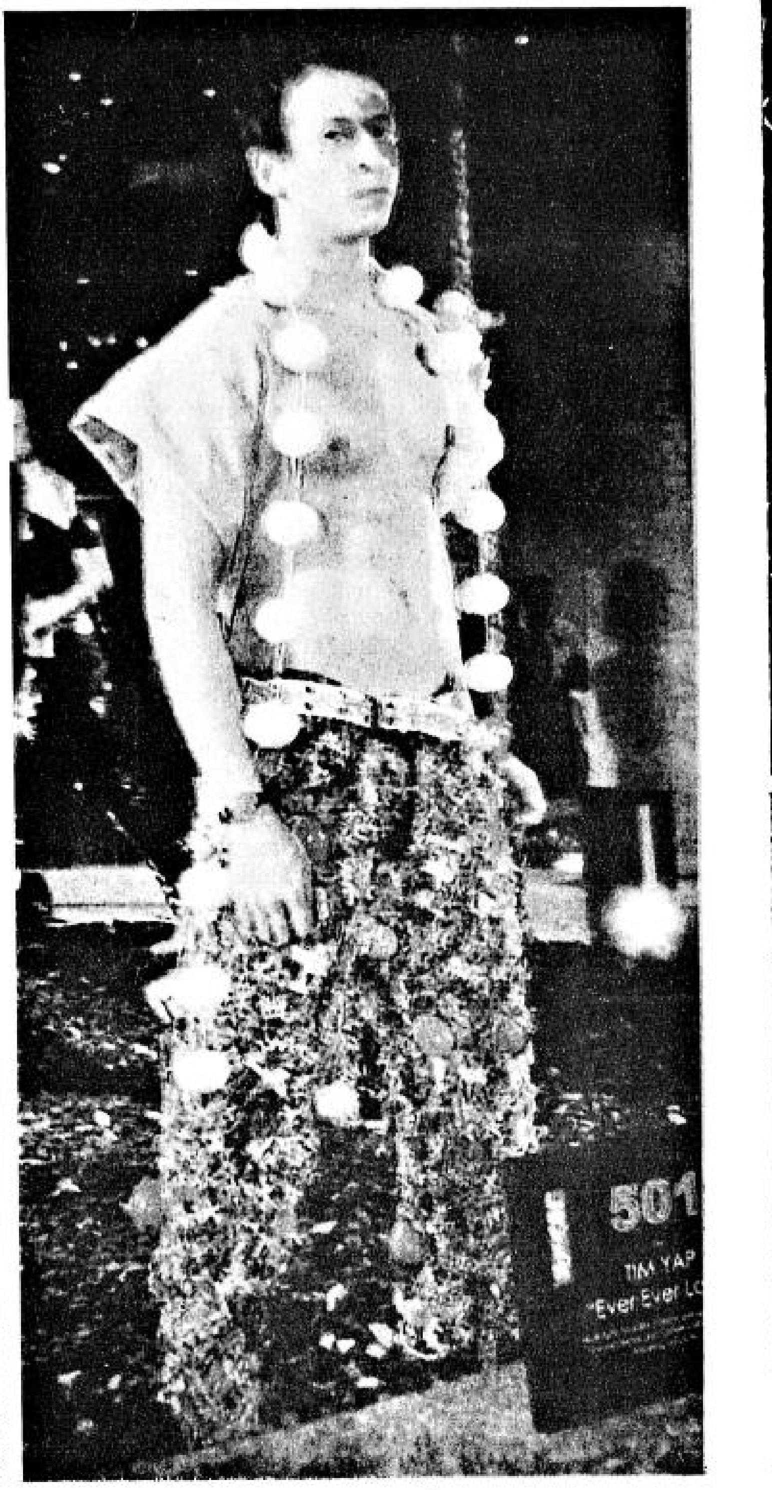


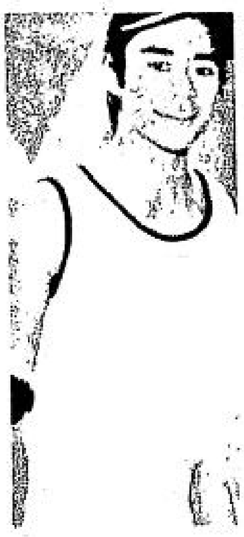
INNO Sotto



TIM Yap

LINNET Velasquez and Tina Ferguson

DUKE de Jesus and Bardotte Lumunnad



BRENT Javier

MICHELLE Borromeo and Gigi Herrera

'Made-over' denims, anyone?

LEVI'S, the 150-year-old name in American denim, just opened its newest store at Market! Market!, the maxi-mall that combines flea market shopping with Grade-A shopping mall amenities.

The opening featured designer Kate Torralba, who is a part of Levi's Icons, an ongoing exhibition of embellished jeans that just had a successful run in Cebu. Torralba, whose "Printcess" fused prints with the sturdy denim, is among a new generation of fashion designers showcasing their individual styles via their designs for Levi's jeans.

Other participants in Levi's Icons are Bea Valdes, Margarita Fores, Inno Sotto, Patricia Cu-Unjieng, Tim Yap, Ronald Pasion and Tessa Prieto-Valdes.

The Levi's exhibit in Market! Market! at The Fort ends today.

EDITH Duya, Kyla Duya, Kate Torralba, Ceferino Laus, Rafael Duya and Rico Duya

---

Big boost to personal financial planning

By Anne A. Jambora

THE COUNTRY'S largest foreign bank is finally opening its doors to middle-income earners through a financial planning service. It lends its expertise and knowledge in global banking and wealth management to the hardworking professionals and entrepreneurs—for free.

For liquid assets starting as low as P100,000 to P2 million, financial "doctors" of Citibank will become everyone's personal banker, providing invaluable advice on how to build hard-earned money and achieve one's personal financial goals. What used to be a service exclusive to its affluent clients, Citibank now offers to a broader market through a program called Citibanking.

"To be able to be a full-service [bank], we have to be able to look at the middle market. We thought that with whatever successes we've had with the upper sphere, we should be able to accord the same to the middle-income earners," says Aileen Litonjua, Citibank retail banking director.

Middle-income earners can now have objective, professional advice on, say, buying a car within a year, setting up a business in two or even indulging in a hedonistic grand tour abroad.

In a 30-minute interview, prospective clients' financial health will be assessed. Personal bankers will evaluate their profile, including savings/deposit accounts, assets and loans, expenses, etc., before considering their short- and long-term needs.

A risk profile is then drawn up, which computes adjustments on the clients' savings/spending habits. Then the clients receive suggestions on investments and other financial tools.

There is absolutely no commitment on a prospective client to invest. Either they walk out the door after consultation, or join Citibanking.

Litonjua says although many Filipinos are into saving up, only 28 percent have money in investments. "Your money should work hard for you. Save up or take charge of your finances. *Huwag 'yung hinahayaan lang sa* table or *sa* bank."

She says Filipinos, for instance, like to jump in and out of the market. They put money in 30-day time deposit, and begin jumping from Bank 1 to Bank 2 to Bank 3. Truth is, Litonjua says, if they profile themselves, learning that some money goes to short-term investments and others to long-term, they will be ahead of the game over time.

"It's time to get out of that thinking and start planning in a structured way—what it is that you want and the risks you can take," Litonjua says. "Financial planning is not something the middle-income market normally do, that's why we want to bring awareness on investing or proactively managing their finances."

Bad habit

Nina Aguas, Citibank country business manager for Global Consumer Group, says that Filipinos have the habit of just leaving their money in the bank, "so if something wrong happens to the bank everybody would be wondering what happened to his/her money."

Aguas says since Citibank is also doing financial education through Citibanking. The client has the right to understand every little thing about what s/he is about to do, and must be able to read through the fine print. "It is our responsibility to make sure prospective clients leave the session in full understanding of what they really want. Of course there are risks, but they have to ask themselves how much risk they can take."

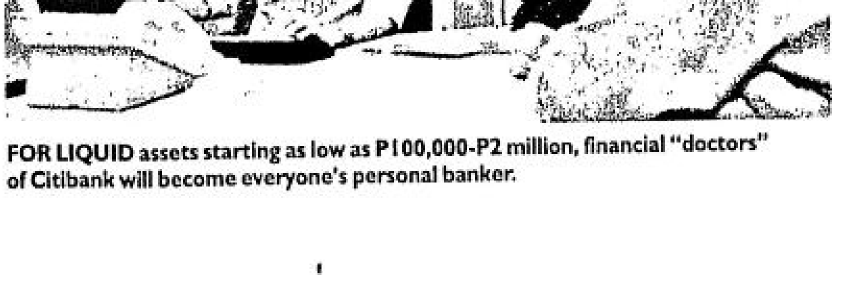
Citibanking has been earlier launched abroad, in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia, and Litonjua notes that the results have been very positive. "Many clients are happy that for this 'little money' they are able to go through a financial planning process," she says. With Citibanking, the bank expects to achieve the same level of success as it has with its financial management for its upper-crust clientele.

"There is always something we've always wanted but never quite had. Citibanking is a step nearer to your dreams," Aguas says.

The middle-income market has been largely ignored by many banks, like Citibank. Through Citibanking, however, Citibank is no longer merely serving the wealthy, but a chunk of conscientious, hardworking and career-oriented professionals who are clueless in the world of moneymaking and financial management.

"[Citibanking] will show you the way. There's the wrong way, a better way and the best way. The choice is yours," Aguas says.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph



FOR LIQUID assets starting as low as P100,000-P2 million, financial "doctors" of Citibank will become everyone's personal banker.

MARCO Polo Davao Hotel general manager Peter Chiu tries out the newest amenity—fast and easy Internet access through Globequest BIZ.

GUESTS may now unwind while going "unwired" at the Eagles' bar.

From Davao to the rest of the world

By Allison W. Lopez

AS one of the most peaceful cities in Southeast Asia (based on several studies showing that it has one of the lowest crime rates in the region), Davao City attracts many tourists and foreign investors who are beginning to notice more than just the warmth of its people and, well, the strong smell of durian.

Aside from being the educational center of Mindanao, "Davao certainly has potential as an IT hub," says Jesus Romero, head of Globequest, the corporate business group of Innove Communications Inc. The company recently equipped the Marco Polo Davao Hotel with broadband Internet, making it the first hotel in Mindanao to enjoy BIZ (Broadband Internet Zone).

A combination of wired and wireless Internet access, BIZ allows guests and visitors to connect to the Web either in their rooms or in the lobby lounge and Eagles' bar.

"With this service, we have put the foundation for what will be the new generation of value-added service offerings for Marco Polo's guests such as wireless Internet and mobile office applications," says Romero.

"DAVAO has potential as an IT hub," says Globequest head Jesus Romero.

The wired portion is in guest rooms, where Marco Polo's clients can avail of Internet connection anytime they want since BIZ is "always on." And with its "plug and play" feature, guests don't have to wrestle with cumbersome cables, sockets, jacks and ports. All they have to do is plug their laptops into the system and, voila!—an instant and secure connection is made.

BIZ also makes it possible for guests to surf the Web "unwired" while in a meeting at the lobby lounge or just chilling out at the Eagles' bar. Soon, when the function rooms of this five-star hotel become BIZ-enabled, product presentations using the Net will also be a breeze.

Necessary part

For those who value instant and reliable access, having broadband connection is certainly good news. BIZ delivers download speeds of up to 70 times faster than the standard 28.8 kbps modems, enabling the user to download web pages in an instant and watch streaming videos.

"It's 10 times faster than dial-up," adds Marco Polo GM Peter Chiu. The hotel, says Chiu, recognized Internet access as a necessary part of any hotel's amenities in these tech-savvy times. "We're taking another step to provide added service to our customers. It is a long-term investment that's reasonable for our customers," he says.

Since this Internet service employs DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) technology, the phone line won't be tied up, so guests can still make those important business calls to Manila or abroad while updating progress reports on their laptops. A DSL modem on the phone splits a single phone line into two frequencies—one for data and one for voice.

Chiu is optimistic that having this new amenity would encourage more visitors and travelers to choose the Marco Polo Davao. It has happened before, he says, when Marco Polo opened five years ago and blazed a trail in the hotel industry in Davao. The 18-floor hotel, the tallest in the city, is part of the Marco Polo Hotel Group that has affiliates in Hong Kong, China and Vietnam.

Global standards

Davao's top hotel is the latest addition to the premier hotels Globequest services in Luzon and Visayas. "Now it can be told that Marco Polo Davao is in line with global standards in providing broadband Internet," Romero says.

His next project is the Davao International Airport (DIA). Pretty soon, mobile denizens can also log on to the Web as soon as they step into the classy airport, which will be a WIZ (Wireless Internet Zone) hotspot by November.

> Globequest has equipped the Marco Polo with broadband Internet, making it the first hotel in Mindanao to offer ultra-fast connectivity

As the gateway to the East Asian growth area, and having direct flights to Indonesia and Singapore, the DIA welcomes many local and foreign businessmen daily. With WIZ in place, they can go online anytime through the airport's WiFi (wireless fidelity) technology.

"We want to assure investors that they're in a world-class location," says Romero. And what better way to do this than getting wired 24/7 to the rest of the globe?

TRENDSETTER AND BEAUTY GURU RICKY REYES DISCOVERED THAT DRESSING FASHIONABLY FROM HEAD TO FOOT DOESN'T COST AN ARM AND A LEG.

MARKET! MARKET!
Bonifacio Global City
The *fun* is in the finds
Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.
Another retail innovation.

THIS BEAUTY AUTHORITY NOW BUYS HIS FAVORITE BRANDS FOR A STEAL AT THE RETAIL STORES AND BAZAARS IN MARKET! MARKET! WITH THOUSANDS OF FINDS FROM OUTFITS TO HOUSEWARE TO SO MANY OTHER STYLISH STUFF, IT'S SO—IN THE WORDS OF RICKY—NAKAKALOKA!

The movie theater in my mind

The new Shang Cineplex at the Shangri-La Plaza boasts of state-of-the art cinemas and the most comfortable seating imaginable

PREMIER theater patrons can have cocktails at this lounge while waiting for the next screening time.

NOW, one doesn't have to go all the way to Makati for a first-class moviegoing experience. After a year of renovating, the much-awaited Shang Cineplex at the Shangri-La Plaza has reopened and now boasts of state-of-the art movie theaters equipped with the latest audio/video technology and the most comfortable seating imaginable.

The cinemas' renovation was in line with the mall's overall rejuvenation plans, to cater to the ever-changing demands and tastes of the mall-going crowd. Hence, the makeover didn't stop with the facilities, but with a new logo and new color scheme of red, blue, yellow and black for a modern and sleek look.

The prestigious firm of GF & Partners, Architects Co. found a way to combine form and function in their redesign of the theaters.

More choices

Where there used to be only two cinemas, there are now five. That certainly means more movies showing at the same time, giving the public more choices on what to watch. But the addition of theaters does not mean less room for viewers. Cinemas 1 and 2 seat 333 guests each; Cinemas 3 and 4 on the second level can seat 291 guests each, as well as accommodate four wheelchairs. All are guaranteed seating, so no need to rush looking for empty seats.

The exclusive Premiere Theater at the center of the Shang Cineplex is arguably the best of the lot as it is smaller than the others, creating a more intimate atmosphere. With only 88 seats in a stadium-type arrangement, it makes for a uniquely enjoyable time at the movies. You can sit back and not have to fret about seeing over the head of the person sitting in front of you. In fact, even if the person in the row in front of you were to stand, his head would only come up to your knees. It's totally unobstructed viewing!

As architect Annette Gaddi-Liganor explains the concept: "In the cinema business, size (being big) is not necessarily a built-in advantage. Being in the comfort zone is. We wish for the moviegoing public to be at ease in the Shang Cineplex." Hence, theater capacity was decreased and inversely, the seat size was increased.

Premiere Theater patrons are in for an even better treat, as they can while away time at the private lounge located at the entrance. Here, you can munch on pre-screening cocktails and laze about on plush couches and armchairs.

Best equipment

Now for the viewing experience. Nothing but the best cinema projection equipment for the Shang Cineplex, which is Sineplex, the most trusted brand in film projections systems dating all the way back to 1909. Complementing this are the Perlux screens, considered by leading cinema exhibitors as the best projection surface, providing high contrast, bright, sharp and clear pictures and generous viewing angles—meaning any seat in the house gets an excellent movie picture.

The sound system is the Dolby Digital cinema processor with surround EX system, pumped up by the cinema amplifiers from QSC, a globally recognized leader in audio manufacturing. The acclaimed JBL ScreenArray speaker system then delivers crystal-clear audio to the audience.

Last but certainly not the least, the Shang Cineplex is handicapped-friendly. All the theaters have ramps and allocations for wheelchairs. Aisle space is wide enough to accommodate the width of a wheelchair for easy maneuvering. Plus, each cinema has its own set of restrooms, so you won't miss much if you have to go during the movie.

But once you settle into your soft, comfy seat, you won't ever want to get up again. So just sit back and relax because there's nothing more to do but enjoy the show at the Shang Cineplex.

Beia Formoso

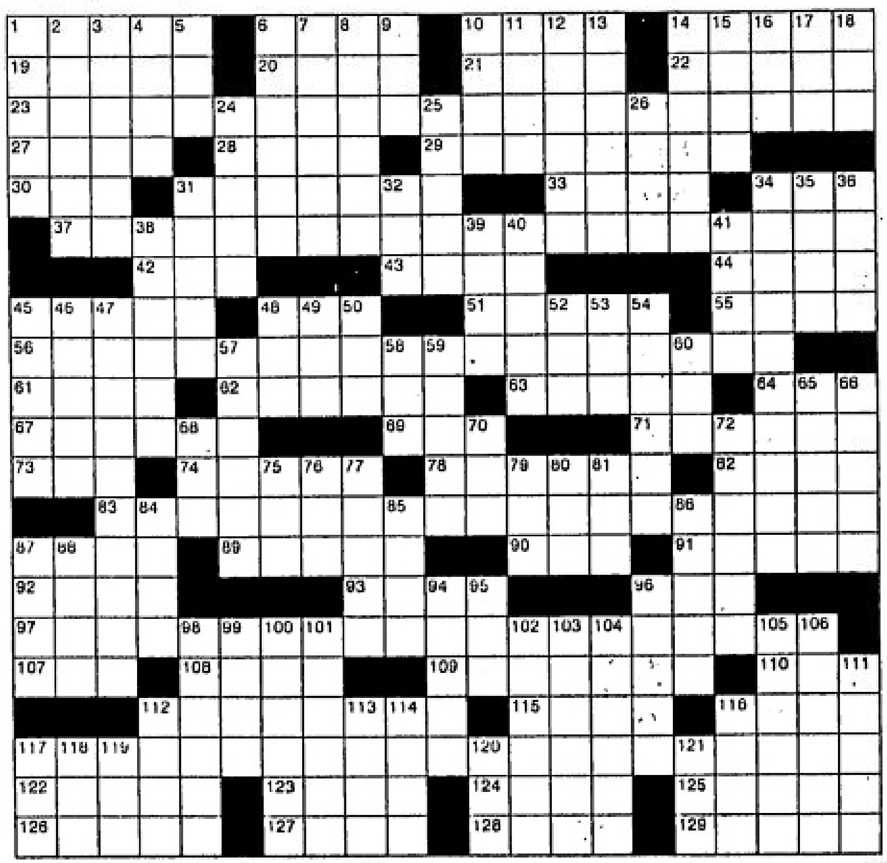
GUARANTEED SEATING. One of five theaters in the rejuvenated cinema complex at Shangri-La Plaza features stadium-type seating, tastefully done in blue, for better and more comfortable viewing.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo HEAVY LIFTING

ACROSS
1 Saunter along
6 Tallies up
10 Depict unfairly
14 Deceive
19 Seduced
20 Carrie's "Star Wars" role
21 "Je t'—" (Henri's "I love you")
22 Gardening gizmo
23 Start of a riddle
27 Kind of drum
28 Go offstage
29 Complexion
30 Personal-ad abbr.
31 Engineless planes
33 State, in Somme
34 Existed
37 Riddle, part 2
42 Ron who played Tarzan
43 Pack away
44 "East of Eden" director Kazan
45 Assuaged
48 Ooh's partner
51 Rock bottom
55 6/6/44
56 Riddle, part 3
61 Fatigue
62 Major golf event
63 Miss Doolittle
64 Pre-Q queue
67 Mario Puzo novel
69 Reference bk.
71 Surfing the Web
73 Congeal
74 Tick off
78 Irregular
82 Give off
83 Riddle, part 4
87 — d'oeuvres
89 Be-Fuddled guy?
90 Antique Pontiac
91 NBA coach Pat
92 Prince William's alma mater
93 Back muscles, briefly
96 Droop
97 Riddle, part 5
107 Fishing aid
108 Moreover
109 Expand gradually
110 Sopping
112 Bacterium that doesn't need oxygen
115 Mets or Jets
116 Scottish isle
117 Riddle's answer
122 Singer Ross
123 Fork point
124 Model Macpherson
125 Name on a plow
126 Ancient
127 — about (circa)
128 Beloved
129 "Lou Grant" star

DOWN
1 Excuse in court
2 "The Lion King" lion
3 R&B singer Peabo
4 13 popes
5 End of some URLs
6 "Dynasty" vixen
7 Scoff at
8 Calorie counter
9 Witnessed
10 Polio vaccine developer
11 "I've Got the Music in Me" singer Dee
12 "Lose Yourself" rapper
13 Attended
14 Shack type
15 Inactive
16 I problem?
17 Billfold bill
18 End of some URLs
24 "Marcus —, M.D."
25 Strength
26 Big kid?
31 Israel's Meir
32 Campers, e.g.
34 Feral beast
35 Home to billions
36 Remain
38 Less shallow
39 — Ana (New Mexico county)
40 Cognizant
41 Fix up
45 These, in Madrid
46 One at —
47 Flu symptom
48 Classifieds, e.g.
49 Back in time
50 In the know
52 Youngest Rugrat
53 Infamous Amin
54 Split into new districts
57 Subtle distinction
58 Peace sign
59 Boredom
60 Summer hue
65 Cat- — -tails
66 Trivial
68 Rat-a- —
70 "Larry King Live" airer
72 River to the Delaware
75 Bruins' org.
76 Resistance unit
77 Relent
79 Future fowl
80 Ex-GI
81 "Evil Woman" gp.
84 Lacks life
85 Either of the gangster twins Ronnie or Reggie
86 Brooklyn art institute
87 Rough- —
88 Will- — -wisp
94 Sauna cover-up
95 Novelist Grafton
96 Slouch
98 The Promised Land
99 "The Good Earth" wife
100 In the habit of
101 Ohio port on Lake Erie
102 Steers in the pasture
103 Iris ring
104 Courtesy car
105 Gotten up
106 Prof's prize
111 Get to the point?
112 First-rate
113 "Not again!"
114 Boxer Max
116 Frosts
117 Big stink
118 Up to, informally
119 Lump
120 Nourished
121 Actress Lupino



answer on page D3

BULACAN-MADE arts and crafts. ***Baro't saya*** **from Malolos, jewelry and leather goods from Meycauayan, pottery products and furniture made by carving, hand-painting and bones in-laying**

Oriental
2
Excellente
Dalandan & Calamansi

BULACAN beverages. Chocolate Excellente Tablea and Oriental Lime Dalandan and Calamansi concentrate, both in their new packaging featured in "Tatak Bulakeño" exhibit at SM City Marilao.

Exhibit showcases Bulacan's history, culture

SM City Marilao presented recently the "Tatak Bulakeño" exhibit as part of the Linggo ng Bulacan 2004 festival.

The exhibit, a project of the provincial government of Bulacan, was organized by the Bulacan Tourism Council with SM City Marilao.

Bulacan Gov. Josie de la Cruz, Vice Gov. Rely Plamenco and Marilao Mayor Jose Guillermo attended the opening ceremonies of the exhibit that showcased the province's history and religious tradition, as well as culture, design and architecture.

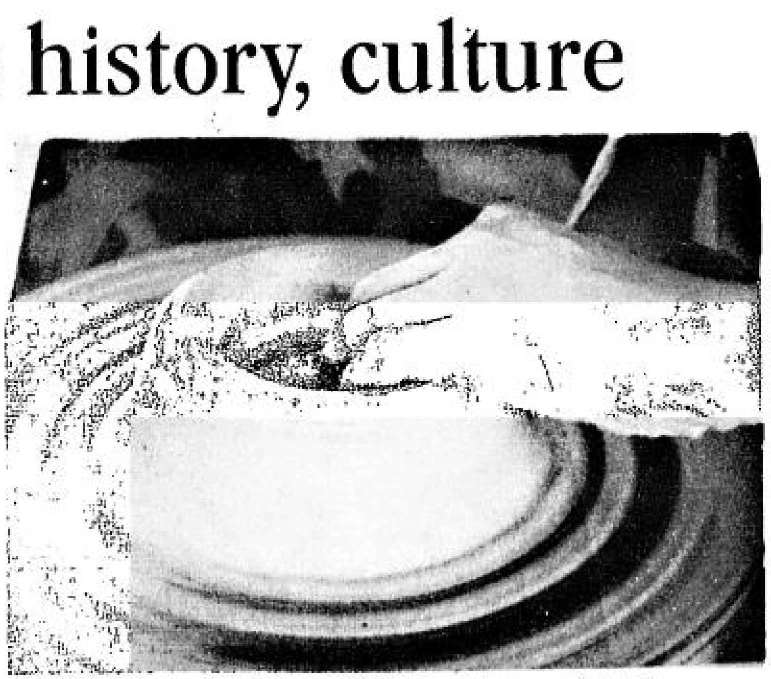
"Tatak Bulakeño" put on limelight the heroism of Marcelo H. del Pilar, the great propagandist, and the hero of Tirad Pass, Gregorio del Pilar. Also featured were historical sites such as Kakrong, a major Katipunan battlefield, and the Basicala Manor, where Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo once lived while waging war against Spain.

Churches featured were those in Calumpit, Plaridel, Angat and Malolos—the Barasoain Church, where the first Philippine Congress was held.

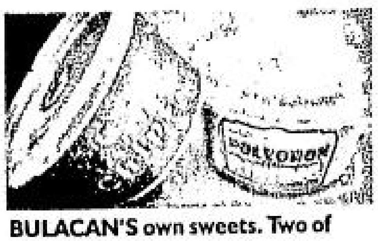
Mallgoers got a glimpse of "Kneeling Carabao Festival," "Sayaw ng Obando Fertility Ritual" and "Libad Festival" river-celebration.

"Tatak Bulakeño" paid tribute to the province's prominent artists like the late National Artist José Joya, Nicanor Abelardo and National Artist Guillermo Tolentino.

The exhibit also showcased Bulacan's *ternos*, jewelry and pottery, as well as food like *tahong* (mussel) chips, sweetened *garbanzos* (chick peas), sweetened *langka* and *macapuno*, tomato jam, bee honey and pickled papaya, *ampalaya* and *dampalit*.



POTTERY-MAKING is still a source of livelihood for many Bulakeños.



BULACAN'S own sweets. Two of Bulakeño's products in the food spectacle—sweets and deli division, Tahong Chips (mussle crackers by Women Work) and Polvoron de Pinipig, in their improved packaging.

October is month for German festivities

OCTOBER has just been designated Germany month, a time to celebrate the bonds that exist between this mighty European country and the Philippines.

"Germany—It's more than you think!" is a festival designed to inculcate and sharpen awareness about German culture and the arts, cuisine, and products and services. It unfolds under the joint chairmanship of Oscar Lopez, chair and CEO of the First Philippine Holdings Corp., and Dr. Eckhard Cordes, member of the Board of Management of Daimler-Chrysler AG in Stuttgart, Germany. Both business leaders also are co-chair of the Philippine-German Economic Council.

The festival kicked off last Sept. 30, 7 p.m. at the Rockwell Plaza Strip, with the Bavarian Sound Express flying in directly from Munich for the event. For avid fans of innovative broken beats and clubby tracks, the "Lounge @fter sunset" with famous German disc jockey Ben Mono will be held Oct. 15-17.

The land of Bach, Brahms and Beethoven will feature music from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, as performed by the Concert Ensemble Amarcord on Oct. 10 at the RCBC Plaza. Berlin-based violinist Justin Texon and German-trained pianist Peter Porticos will perform in a concert on Oct. 12 at the St. Cecilia's Hall of St. Scholastica's College.

Meanwhile, the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra Woodwind Quintet will be featured on Oct. 24 at Rockwell. On Nov. 22, the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, featuring musical director Eugene Castillo and violinist Angelo Bard.

Automobile classics manufactured by Audi, BMW, Mercedes Benz, Porsche and Volkswagen will also parade around Makati's business district before being displayed at Rustan's open car park, together with the latest car models. Aficionados will also enjoy an exhibit of luxury cars and motorbikes at the German Auto Show from Oct. 8 to 17 at the Rockwell Power Plant Mall, and at the Glorietta Activity Center from Oct. 25-27.

For their part, Philippine-based companies will feature German products and services at an exhibit running from Oct. 8-10 at the Glorietta Activity Center, and from Oct. 22-24 at the Edsa Mall and the Cupola at Glorietta.

Fashionistas will delight in German couture at the Mercedes Benz Fashion Show on Oct. 22 at the Mercedes Benz Showroom in Fort Bonifacio, with Escada, Laurel, Betty Barclay and Puma offering the latest season finds.

A cocktail party featuring German wine, cheese, beer and sausage will be held on Oct. 28 at the Tower Club, with other gastronomic adventures to be savored at the German Club, the New World Renaissance Hotel, the Mandarin Oriental Hotel and the Manila Peninsula Hotel.

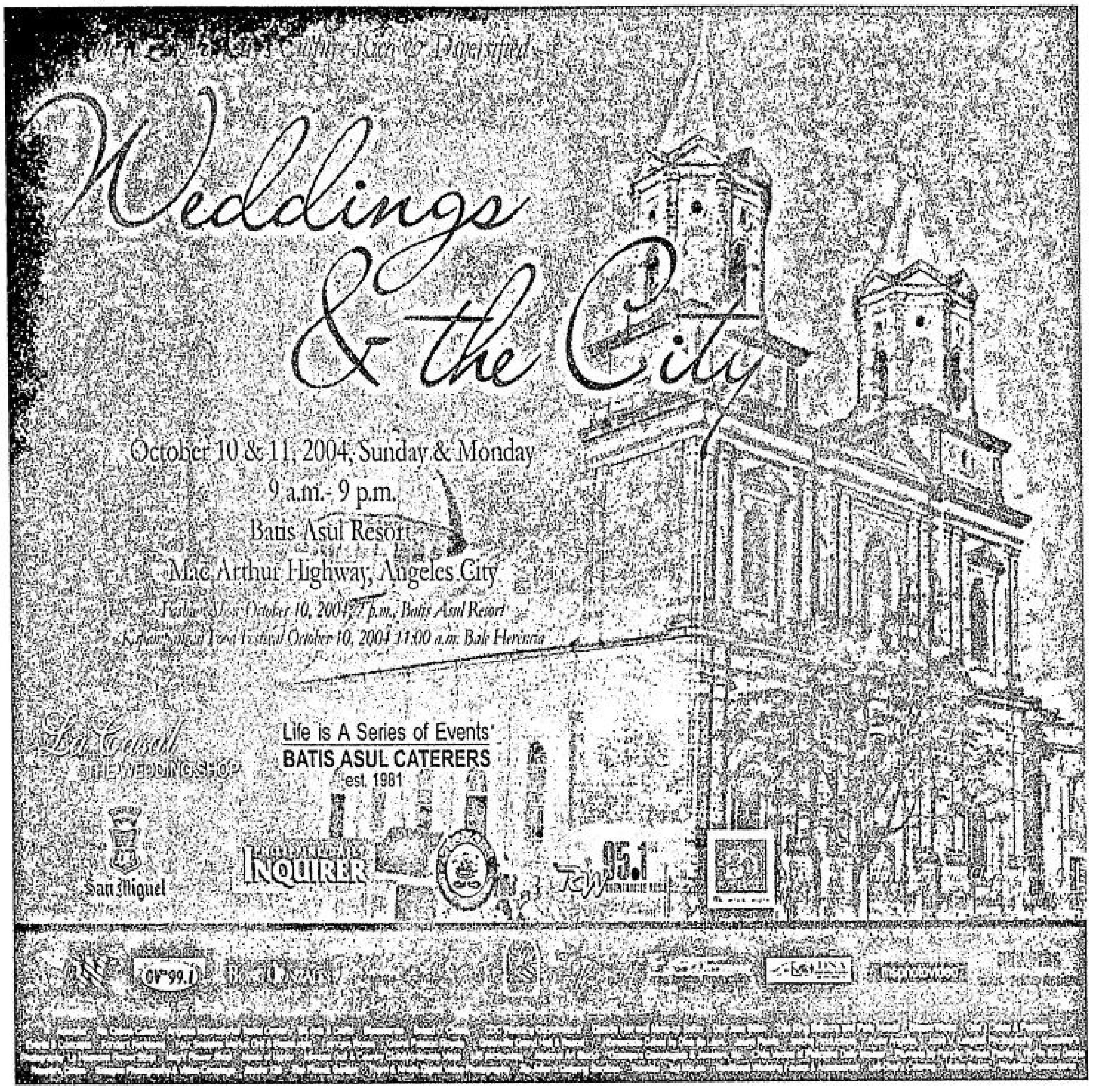
Other activities to look forward to include the German Film Festival, open houses at Temic Automotive and Lufthansa Technik, the "Eyes of Wisdom" photo exhibit, the Gallery of Prints exhibit called "The Philippines ca. 1600-1900: A German Retrospective," German School presentations, and a series of lectures at various universities in Manila.

Capping the festival is a party hosted by ABS-CBN, the German month's exclusive TV media partner.

Fairs and More, a subsidiary of the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, is organizing German Month in cooperation with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and the support of the Goethe Institute Manila and the German Club.

Call 8451324 or visit www.germany-philippines.com.

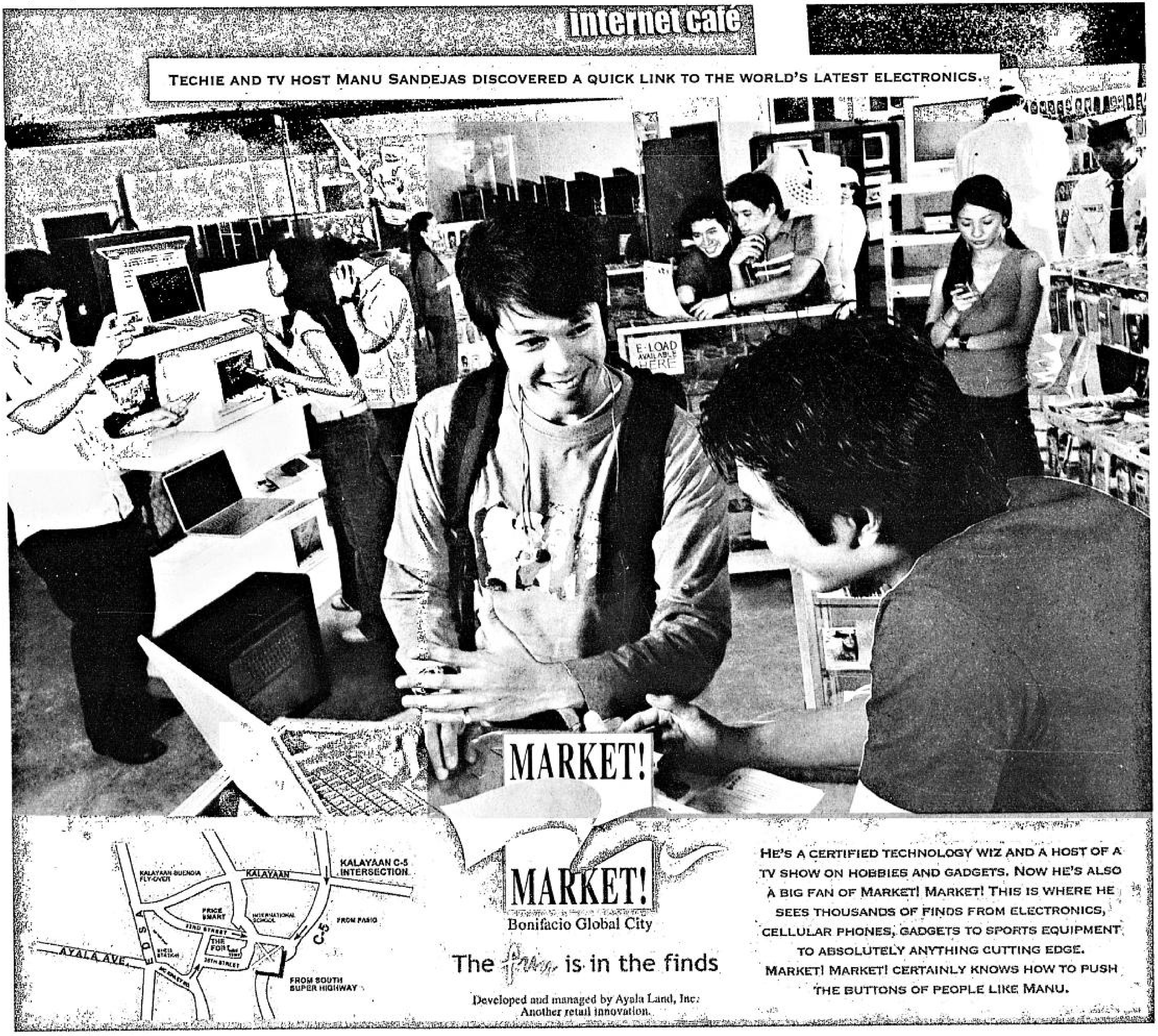
CHEERS! German locals get together for a glass of beer during the traditional Oktoberfest. The Philippines had a taste of this German merrymaking on Oct. 1 and 2 at Fort Bonifacio.


Weddings & the City

October 10 & 11, 2004, Sunday & Monday
9 a.m.- 9 p.m.
Batis Asul Resort
MacArthur Highway, Angeles City

Fashion Show October 10, 2004, 7 p.m., Batis Asul Resort

Life is A Series of Events
BATIS ASUL CATERERS
est. 1981


internet café

TECHIE AND TV HOST MANU SANDEJAS DISCOVERED A QUICK LINK TO THE WORLD'S LATEST ELECTRONICS.

MARKET! MARKET!
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The fun is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.
Another retail innovation.

HE'S A CERTIFIED TECHNOLOGY WIZ AND A HOST OF A TV SHOW ON HOBBIES AND GADGETS. NOW HE'S ALSO A BIG FAN OF MARKET! MARKET! THIS IS WHERE HE SEES THOUSANDS OF FINDS FROM ELECTRONICS, CELLULAR PHONES, GADGETS TO SPORTS EQUIPMENT TO ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING CUTTING EDGE. MARKET! MARKET! CERTAINLY KNOWS HOW TO PUSH THE BUTTONS OF PEOPLE LIKE MANU.

Smart Buddy Prepaid

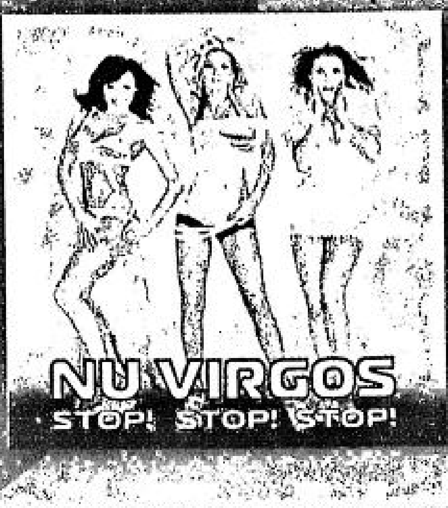
downloads

zed soundz

We're big on SOUNDZ.

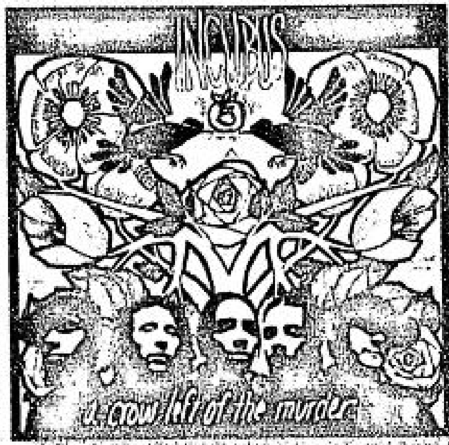
EVANESCENCE

switchfoot


NU VIRGOS
STOP! STOP! STOP!

Hilary Duff

MANDY MOORE
coverage...


INCUBUS
a crow left of the murder

Sony Music [illegible]

Introducing zed Soundz . The widest selection of mobile music.

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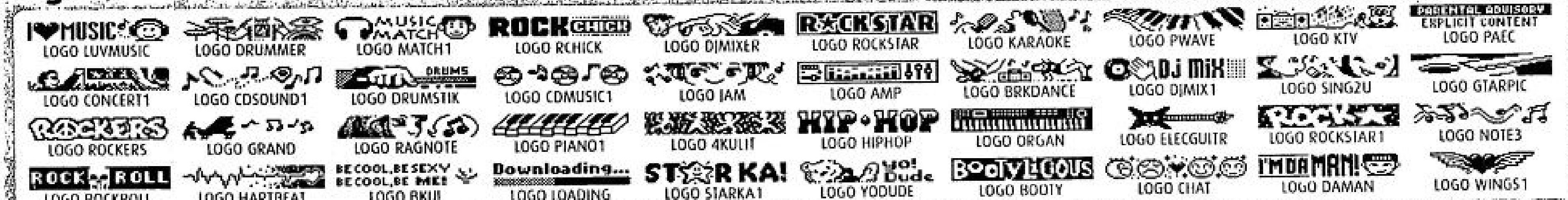
SOUND EFFECTS
MMX UPDATES
POW TONE
POW POLY
POW ROCK
POW OPM
POW POLY
JAM MUSIC MAGAZINE
POP STAR QUIZ
MMX POP QUIZ
MMS POP ARTIST

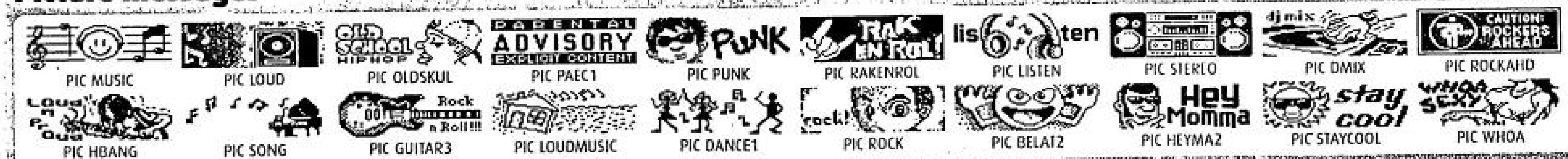
Logos



LOGO LUVMUSIC
LOGO DRUMMER
LOGO MATCH1
LOGO RCHICK
LOGO DJMIXER
LOGO ROCKSTAR
LOGO KARAOKE
LOGO PWAVE
LOGO KTV
LOGO PAEC
LOGO CONCERT1
LOGO CDSOUND1
LOGO DRUMSTIK
LOGO CDMUSIC1
LOGO JAM
LOGO AMP
LOGO BRKDANCE
LOGO DJMIX1
LOGO SING2U
LOGO GTARPIC
LOGO ROCKERS
LOGO GRAND
LOGO RAGNOTE
LOGO PIANO1
LOGO 4KULIT
LOGO HIPHOP
LOGO ORGAN
LOGO ELECGUITR
LOGO ROCKSTAR1
LOGO NOTE3
LOGO ROCKROLL
LOGO HARTBEAT
LOGO BKUL
LOGO LOADING
LOGO STARKA1
LOGO YODUDE
LOGO BOOTY
LOGO CHAT
LOGO DAMAN
LOGO WINGS1

I♥MUSIC
MUSIC MATCH
ROCK CHICK
ROCKSTAR
PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT CONTENT
DRUMS
DJ MIX
ROCKERS
HIP HOP
ROCK
ROCK n ROLL
BE COOL, BE SEXY BE COOL, BE ME!
Downloading...
STAR KA!
yo! Dude
BOOTYLICIOUS
I'M DA MAN!

Picture messages



PIC MUSIC
PIC LOUD
PIC OLDSKUL
PIC PAEC1
PIC PUNK
PIC RAKENROL
PIC LISTEN
PIC STERLO
PIC DMIX
PIC ROCKAHD
PIC HBANG
PIC SONG
PIC GUITAR3
PIC LOUDMUSIC
PIC DANCE1
PIC ROCK
PIC BELAT2
PIC HEYMA2
PIC STAYCOOL
PIC WHOA

OLD SCHOOL HIPHOP
PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT CONTENT
PUNK
RAK EN ROL!
lis ten
dj mix
CAUTION: ROCKERS AHEAD
Loud n Proud
Rock n Roll!!!
rock!
Hey Momma
stay cool
WHOA SEXY

Ringtones

Song Title	Artist	Mono keyword
Baby Boy	*Beyonce*	TONE BABYBOY
My Immortal	*Evanescence*	TONE IMMORTAL
Gravity	*Jerry Yan*	TONE GRAVITY
Talk Shows On Mute	*Incubus*	TONE TALKSHOW
So Yesterday	*Hilary Duff*	TONE SOYDAY
New Deep	*John Mayer*	TONE NEWDEEP
Anticipation	*Mandy Moore*	TONE ANTICIPATION
Calm Like The Bomb	*Rage Against The Machine*	TONE CALMLIKE
Imaginary	*Evanescence*	TONE IMAGINARY
Me, Myself and I	*Beyonce*	TONE MEMYSELF
Mmmm Bop	*Hanson*	TONE MMMBOP
Bigger Than My Body	*John Mayer*	TONE BIGGER
I Want To Love You	*Jerry Yan*	TONE WANT2LUV
Have A Little Faith In Me	*Mandy Moore*	TONE FAITHIN
Fantasy	*Jerry Yan*	TONE FANTASY
Song Title	**Artist**	**Poly Keyword**
Gravity (Di Xin Yin Li)	*Jerry Yan*	POLY GRAVITY
Work It Out	*Beyonce*	POLY WORKITOUT
Going Under	*Evanescence*	POLY GOINGU
Talk Shows On Mute	*Incubus*	POLY TALKSHOW
Why Not	*Hilary Duff*	POLY WHYNOT
Clarity	*John Mayer*	POLY CLARITY
Breaking Us In Two	*Mandy Moore*	POLY BREAKUS
Calm Like The Bomb	*Rage Against The Machine*	POLY CALMLIKE
I Want It Now	*Jerry Yan*	POLY WANTNOW
So Yesterday	*Hilary Duff*	POLY SOYDAY
Everybody's Fool	*Evanescence*	POLY EVRYBDYS
Baby Boy	*Beyonce*	POLY BABYBOY
New Deep	*John Mayer*	POLY NEWDEEP
Decoration	*Jerry Yan*	POLY DECORATION
Moonshadow	*Mandy Moore*	POLY MSHADOW

Wallpapers

MMS ALICIA
MMS ANDREBIG
MMS BEYONCE1
MMS SUGABABES
MMS PINK
MMS JESSNICK
MMS BRITNEY
MMS JUSTIN
MMS KELIS
MMS MISSY
MMS RICKY
MMS ENRIQUE
MMS JLO
MMS 50CENT

How to download a logo, ring tone or picture message:

LOGO LUVMUSIC

TYPE IN KEYWORD.
EX. LOGO LUVMUSIC,
TONE BABYBOY,
PIC MUSIC,
or MMS ALICIA

288

Send to 288.

Also available to Talk 'N Text, Addict and SMART Gold subscribers.

Note. In order for you to identify which musical work the ringtone in question is based on, we have, in addition to the song title, referred an artist who has made the song well known. The artist in question has not participated in the production of the ringtone.

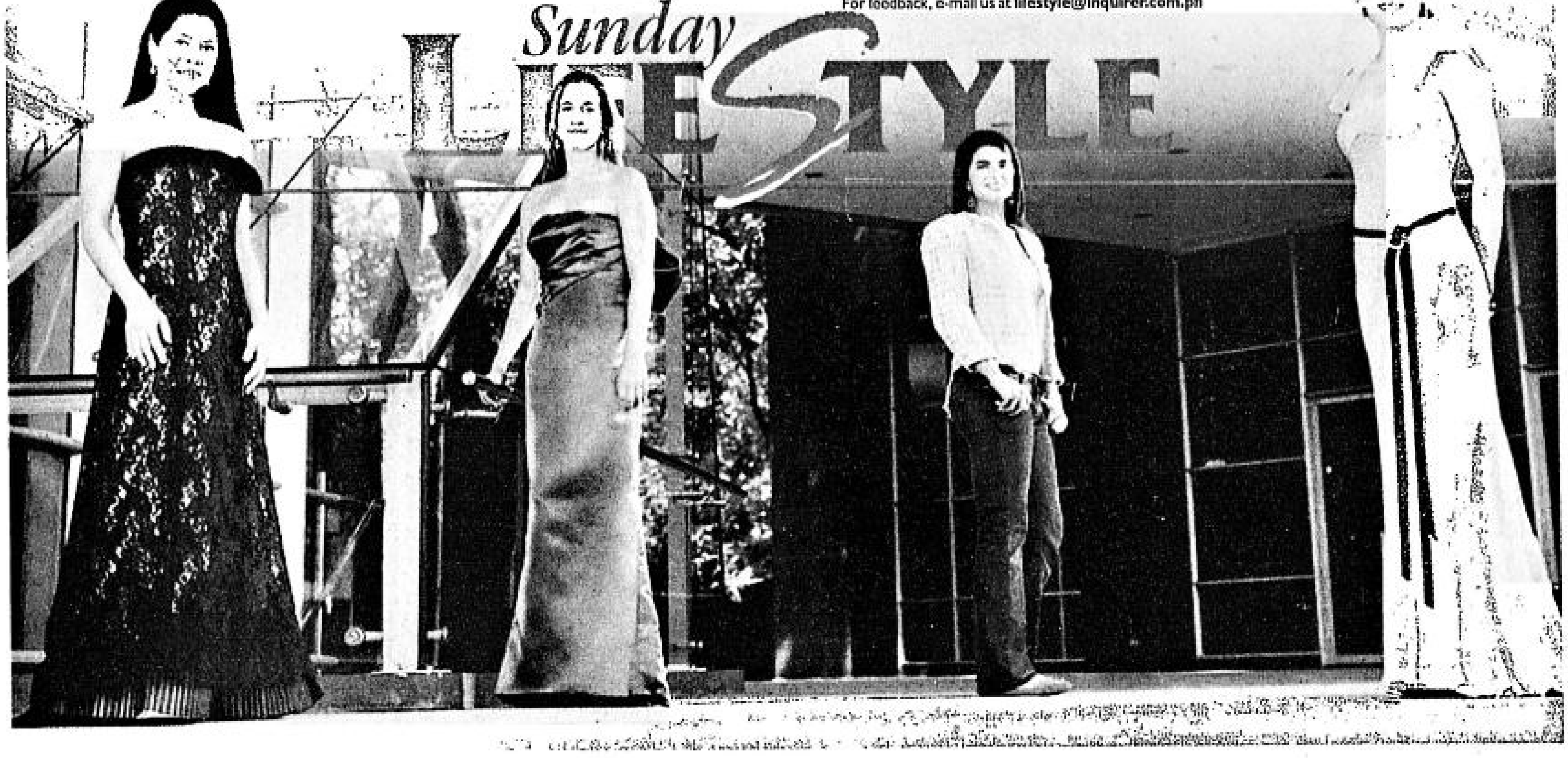
SMART Simply Amazing!

www.smartzed.com

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, text us at 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE



Restore. Love your body. Jergens

Also hot this month are Prada key chains and the Government bar

ZOBEL women, all Inno Sotto's muses are (l-r) Kit, Sofia, Mariana and Lizzie, photographed at the Ayala Museum.
PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILIPPINE TATLER

October's big guns: Inno Sotto, Daniel Romualdez and Alicia Keys

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

THE MOST coveted invitation this October—the Inno Sotto Fashion Show. **Inno Sotto**'s strictly invitational fashion show, "Around the Moon: Five Women," on Oct. 10 at the Ayala Museum is the most eagerly anticipated show for the last part of the year. Celebrating his 25th year in the fashion industry, Inno has pulled all stops to create a show that will be visually stunning and one that will showcase his immense talent as the premiere designer in the country.

The Philippine Tatler partnered (along with Peugeot, HSBC, Globe and Essences) with Inno for the show and for the October issue, asked eight models and **Lizzie**, **Kit**, **Sofia** and **Mariana Zobel** to don his creations amid the splendor of the reopened Ayala Museum. From the photographs, one can conclude that his designs are breathtakingly beautiful, dramatic and incomparable.

On the same night, he will launch his men's cologne, conceptualized and concocted in Paris and to be distributed by Essenses in Rustan's. This is the first time a major designer in the country is having his own perfume line, and it's definitely a feather on Inno's cap. So if you get an invite to the show, you simply must be there!

MUST-HAVE accessory—the Prada key chain

Must-have accessory—the Prada key chain. This item is flying faster than any other F/W 2004 accessory in the market. The Prada robot key chain has risen to new heights not only for its functional use but also because it's a major fashion statement.

My friends **Ricco** and **Tina Ocampo**, who just got back from Italy, told me the key chains were on everyone's list and being quickly lapped up in Europe.

In the F/W 2004 campaign, the key chains are placed either on bags, luggage and belt loops.

If you are in need of some fun fashion statement, go to the Prada boutique at Greenbelt 4 or at the Rustan's Department Store.

Must-go-to concert—Alicia Keys. Set to take country by storm, Alicia Keys, the multi-talented, multi-platinum (her debut album sold over 10 million copies) singer-songwriter, will perform in Manila on Oct. 9 at the Araneta Coliseum.

The world has embraced this singer like no other for her incomparable sensitivity and depth, singing prowess and piano virtuosity. This is definitely one show you should not miss! Tickets available at Ticketnet. Call 9115555.

In the news—Daniel Ro-

OCTOBER'S/ G2

EIGHT women. The varying styles in Inno's collection worn by Manila's top models
PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILIPPINE TATLER

Hats off to the winners!

Century TUNA

CULINARY MEET 2004

The Grand Century Tuna Feast

Century Canning Corporation salutes all the winners in the

Culinary Meet 2004,
The Grand Century Tuna Feast
held last August 28 and 29, 2004
at the Megatrade Hall 3,
SM Megamall,
Mandaluyong City.

On its second year, the annual cooking competition once again put to test the culinary creativity of young and promising kitchen masters and amateur chefs as they whipped up tuna masterpieces using the all- time favorite Century Tuna.

Once again, congratulations to all the **Culinary Meet 2004 THE GRAND CENTURY TUNA FEAST** winners!

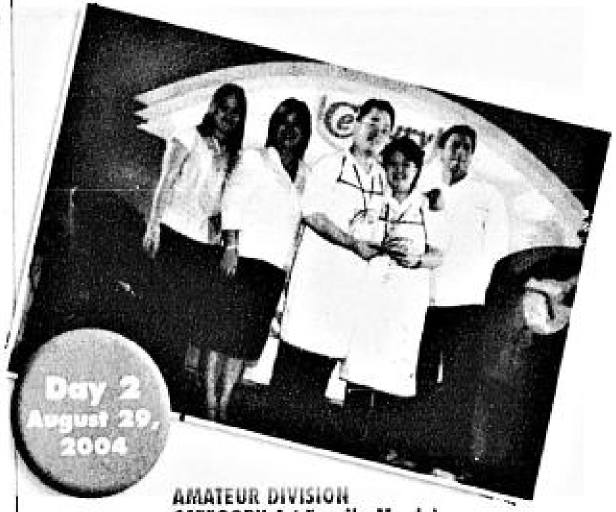
Day 1
August 28, 2004

STUDENT DIVISION (Team Buffet Category)

Grand Winner - Center for Culinary Arts
Frederick A. Custodio, Myra Thea J. Salas
& Andro Jay A. Ambrose
- Tuna Triangles with Nantua Dipping Sauce
- Tuna Sushi Tempura with Sesame Seed Dipping Sauce
- Tuna Salad Duet with Slivered Almonds
- Century Tuna Fish Balls in Curry Sauce with Chapati Bread and Crispy Squash

1st Runner-up - University of Regina Carmeli
Meliton B. Cruz, Frankie Joe Sionson & Janina R. Vasquez

2nd Runner-up - Polytechnic University of the Phils.
Vincent Frederick Artuz, Be-nette C. Revidad
& Ma. Cresida Ricafrente



AMATEUR DIVISION
CATEGORY 1 (Family Meals)

Grand Winner - Mr. Jerry Ty & Ms. Eleanor Ty
- Century Tuna Salad with Wasabi- Mayo Dressing
- Century Tuna Cabbage Roll with 3 Mushroom Sauce
- Century Tuna Cakes in Cream Sauce

1st Runner-up
Mr. Nikos Logman & Ms. Larah Logman

2nd Runner-up
Ms. Leonora L. Gloria & Ms. Ma. Luz Lopez Clopino

Day 2
August 29
2004

AMATEUR DIVISION, CATEGORY 2 (Junior)

Grand Winner
Siena College, Quezon City
Ms. Nina Alejo
- Drunken Tuna Sandwich

1st Runner-up
Claret School, Quezon City
Mr. James Carlo Javier

2nd Runner-up
Miriam College High School
Ms. Patricia Kelly Pareno

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92.3 FLAVORS Recipes image MEGAMALL

MARTIN Wisniewski of Museum Café and L'Oreal's Leica Carpo

L'OREAL'S outgoing country manager Paul Henri Duillet and incoming country manager David Ennes

Beauty that's worth it

LEXI Ledesma, Shu Uemura's Tina Tinio and L'Oreal's David Ennes

PBA commentator Joan Bondoc, Yoya Gueco of the House of Laurel and Jessica Lim

WENDY Hotung, Shu Uemura's Xeng Zulueta, Lancome's Rhea de Vera and Abi Co

MAY Abarquez, Mark Castillo and Sobee Duenas of L'Oreal Philippines' marketing team with Paul Henri Duillet

AT THE L'OREAL launch on Sept. 23 at the hot new restaurant/gallery Museum Café, one constant question was asked: How much would you spend on feeling beautiful?

The question was posed to international and local celebrities because it tied in with L'Oreal Paris' objective, which is to provide highest-quality products at the best possible price.

The local launch of the world-famous L'Oreal Paris tag line, "Because you're worth it," was also the occasion for the farewell of the company's outgoing country manager, Paul Henri Duillet, and the introduction of incoming country manager David Ennes.

In keeping with the L'Oreal Paris theme of global diversity, Museum Café prepared a menu that was both East and West, consisting of 14 different entrées ranging from cold smoked salmon with pomelo to garlic escargot tartlets. Special berry and vanilla-flavored Sky vodka martinis, creamy Bailey's on the rocks, icy Tanqueray gin tonics and bottomless red and white wine care of South African Two Oceans overflowed.

A video showing international L'Oreal Paris spokesperson models such as Beyonce Knowles, Natalia Vodianova, Laetitia Casta and Milla Jovovich, and local personalities like Celine Lopez, Tim Yap, Jenni Epperson and Tessa Prieto-Valdes, was shown. This was followed by a live fashion segment showcasing L'Oreal Paris' best-selling products in skin and body, hair color and styling and makeup.

Models had their hair and makeup done in the Spring Summer 2005 trend by Melby Miram of Hairbytes and Barney Aguilar, with the live makeup segment performed by makeup artist Gella Laurel. All the models were styled by Rajo Laurel in his popular and multi-functional "X top."

A special three-hour sale only for friends of L'Oreal was another highlight of the night.

L'Oreal's tag line is central to the brand's core mission to place its research and expertise at the service of men and women the world over, to help them fulfill the essential need to "feel good about themselves."

October's big guns: Inno Sotto, Daniel Romualdez and Alicia Keys

From page G1

mualdez. In the latest issue of US Vogue, one of Manhattan's "New age swan's and real-life Bergdorf Blonde" **Tory Birch**'s home is featured in an eight-page spread. The interesting part here is the designer who did her 9,000-sq ft apartment—none other NY based-Filipino **Daniel Romualdez.**

Romualdez has become one of the most in-demand designers in New York, especially among the "bright young things set and the next establishment." (Think: Aerin Lauder, Marie-Chantal of Greece etc.)

According to Vogue, for Burch, Romualdez was "an inevitable choice. They first met when Romualdez decorated a Southampton ocean-front house that her husband initially bought as an investment."

"Daniel knows what I like, and he's a master at taking people's taste and making it better," Birch was quoted as saying.

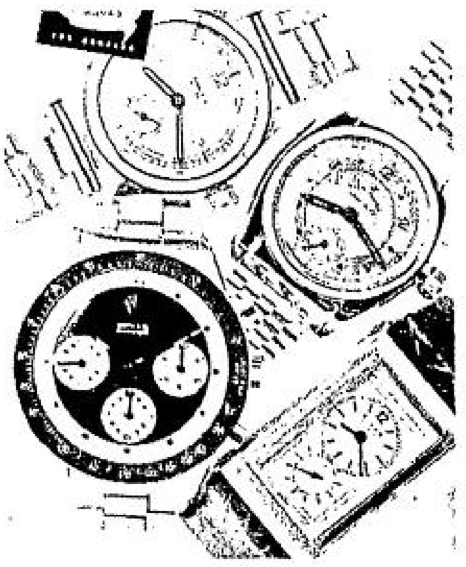
Current craze—vintage watches. Still on the same magazine, US Vogue states that "vintage watches are the latest must-haves."

Although watch collecting, especially among men, is no new thing, vintage watches have taken a whole new precedent with the onslaught of vintage clothing and estate jewelry.

One reason this is so popular is because of its sense of history, the back-to-basics mood, the old-is-new trend and for sheer bragging rights. (Think: My mom gave me her 1950s Jaeger LeCoultre watch. Jaw drops!)

So time to ask your parents or your grandparents to dust off those 1930s Rolexes or Patek Philippes and wear them. They're back in style!

An alternative is to scour specialty shops like La'o center or Venice at 6750 building.



VINTAGE watches are the latest must-haves.

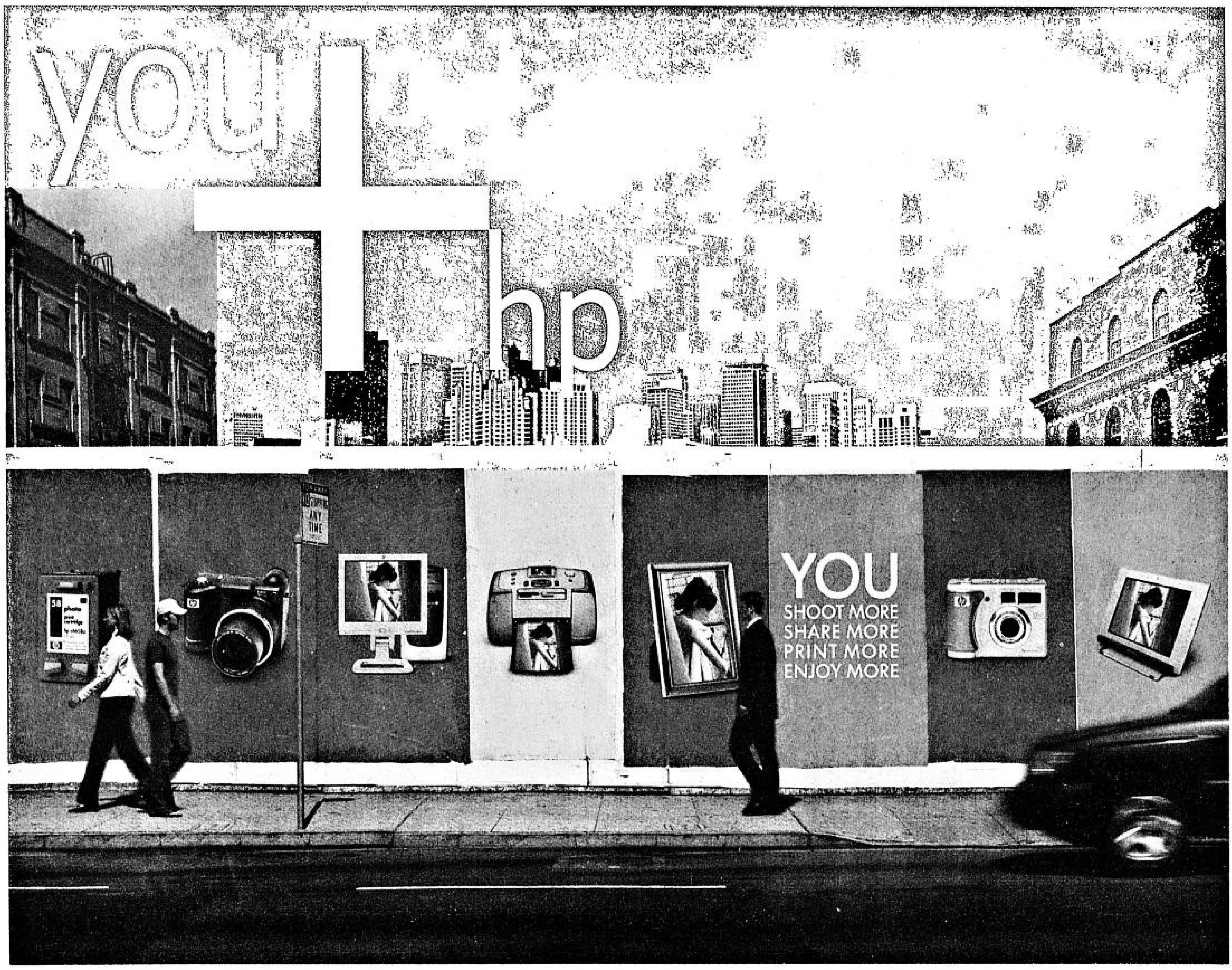
Government—the newest club opens. Just when you thought Manila's nightlife has gotten a bit tiring and boring, then comes a club that's packed with New York vibe and energy and everything pink! Government (where the old Orange used to be) opens its door on Oct. 8 with an all-out party that will surely elevate Manila's clubbing experience.

On opening night, guests must wear red or else be handcuffed by the fashion police! (I hope it's **Kyan** and not **Carson**!) So if you are looking for an alternative to what's already out there, this one will surely get your blood flowing. Visit www.kokunevents.com.

Walk for a cause. In need of some exercise and some heart-enriching event? Join the "Lakad Mo, Pangarap Ko" on Oct. 10, a fun walk/fundraising event for the Knowledge Channel Foundation. The funds will help Knowledge Channel to provide public schools with educational television, of course via the Knowledge Channel. Leading this worthwhile cause is none other than Lopez Group chair **Oscar Lopez** and Education Secretary **Butch Abad**. We hear Vice President **Noli de Castro** and Channel 2's stable of talents will be walking as well, including **Piolo Pascual**. Everyone is invited to join. The donation costs only P200. The assembly will take place at 6 a.m. at the People's Monument in Quezon City.

E-mail the author at antonsd@philtatler.com

A CELEBRATION of heritage and style. Daniel Romualdez-designed home on the pages of US Vogue-October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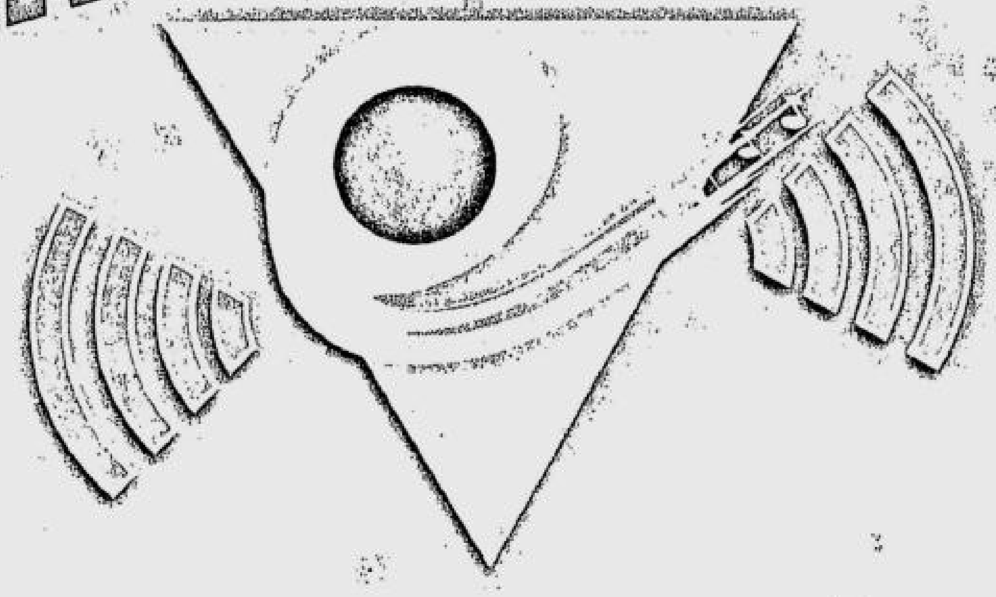


CLASSIC VIVA RINGTUNES

Sharon
The Mega Collection
an audio visual anthology

SHARON CUNETA	Ring ID
Bituing Walang Ningning	101426
Pangarap Na Bituin	101427
Sana'y Wala Nang Wakas	100865

Nakaukit sa Langit
THE BOSS

THE BOSS	Ring ID
Love Is All There Is	101428
Rock Na Rock	101429
Oo Na, Sige Na	101430

maghihintay na lamang
marco

MARCO SISON	Ring ID
Maghihintay Na Lamang	101431
Magmula Noon	101432
Tayo Na	101433

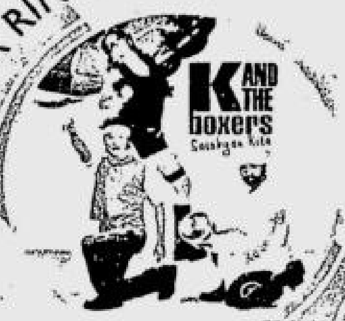
THE COMPANY

THE COMPANY	Ring ID
Gusto Ko Ng A Capella	101434
Sabi Ko Na Nga	101435
Pag Nagkataon	101436

Other Classic Viva Ringtunes

ARTIST	TITLE	Ring ID
Agot Isidro	Beginning Today	100855
Donna Cruz	Habang May Buhay	100221
Donna Cruz	Kadenang Bulaklak	100222
Lani Misalucha	Tila	100224
Pops Fernandez	Kaya Pala	100231
Regine Velasquez	To Reach You	100233
The Company	Baka Ikaw	100864
Wency Cornejo	Magpakailanman	100238
Wency Cornejo	Ang Lahat Ko Ay Ikaw	101238
Wency Cornejo	Kahit Kailan	101241

NEW VIVA RINGTUNES



K & THE BOXERS	Ring ID
Mr. Pogi	101437
Hay Naku	101438
Sasakyan Kita	100223

NEW RELEASE

FREESTYLE	Ring ID
Sa Ayaw Mo't Sa Gusto	101439
Once In A Lifetime	101441
Sa 'yo	101440

Popstar
Sarah Geronimo

SARAH GERONIMO	Ring ID
Sa Iyo	100134
Twin Hearts	100135
Ibulong Sa Hangin	100129

U-TURN	Ring ID
Gravity	101235
Nag-iisa	101237
Could Have Been You	101234

Other New Viva Ringtunes

ARTIST	TITLE	Ring ID
3Yo	Say Ko Lang	101222
Allona	Girl of the World	101170
Andrew E.	Krispy Na Kreamy Pa	101226
Bituin Escalante	I'm Sorry	100866
Jennifer Ventura	Hanggang Sa Muli	101176
Jose Llana	Let the Pain Remain	101178
Rivermaya	Alab Ng Puso	100863
Viva Hot Babes	Bulaklak	100137
The Mongols	Bakit Nga Ba?	100638
Mark Bautista & Sarah Geronimo	Ako'y Maghihintay Duet	101232

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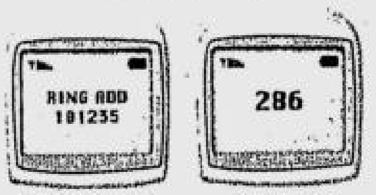

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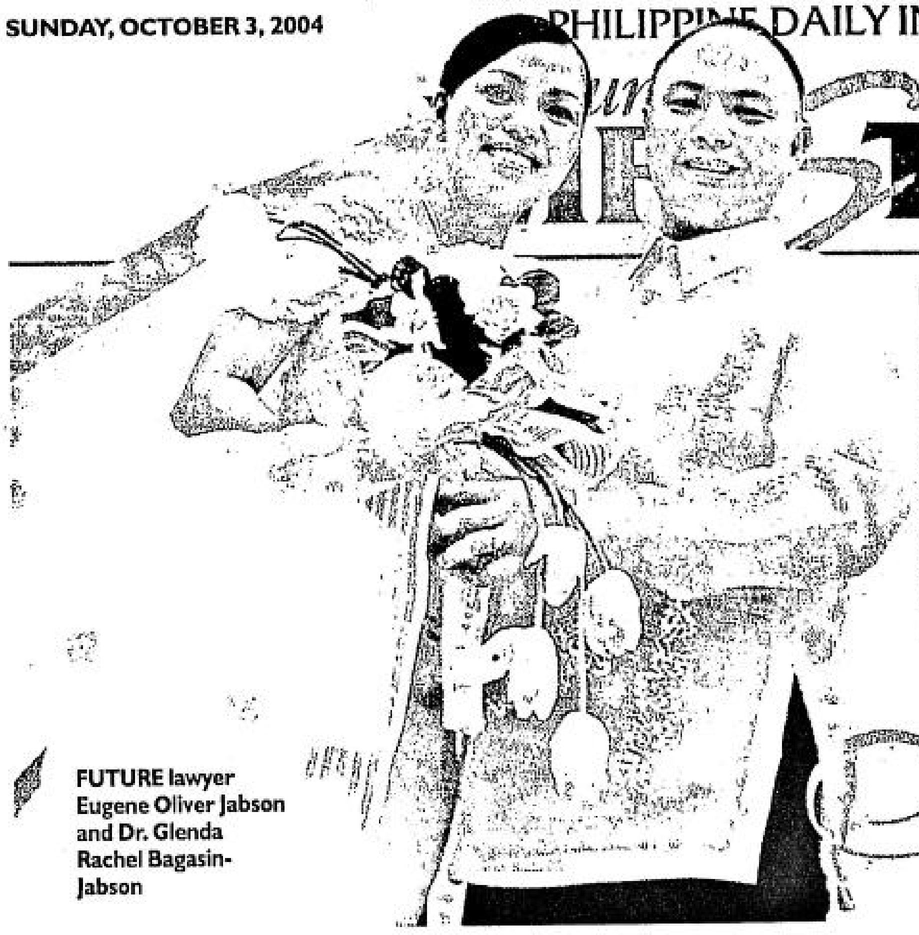

FUTURE lawyer Eugene Oliver Jabson and Dr. Glenda Rachel Bagasin-Jabson

WITH THEIR parents, Glecy and Maj. Gen. Samuel Bagasin and Jeanne and Butch Jabson

A true love affair

JABSON-BAGASIN NUPTIALS

STORY ON PAGE H2

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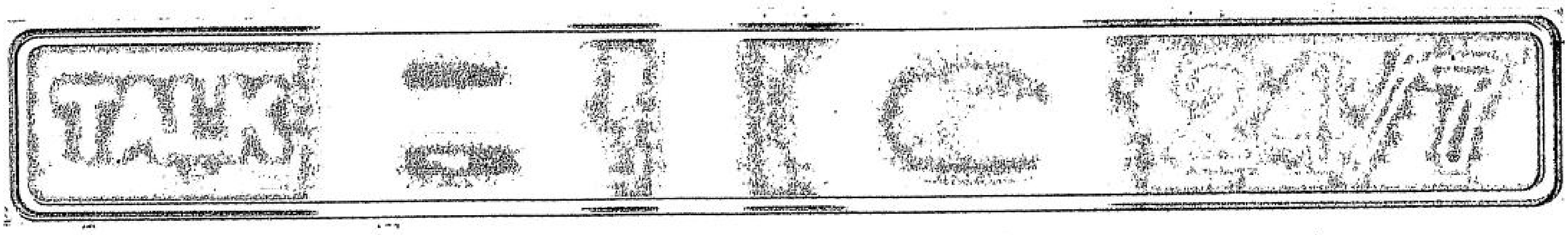

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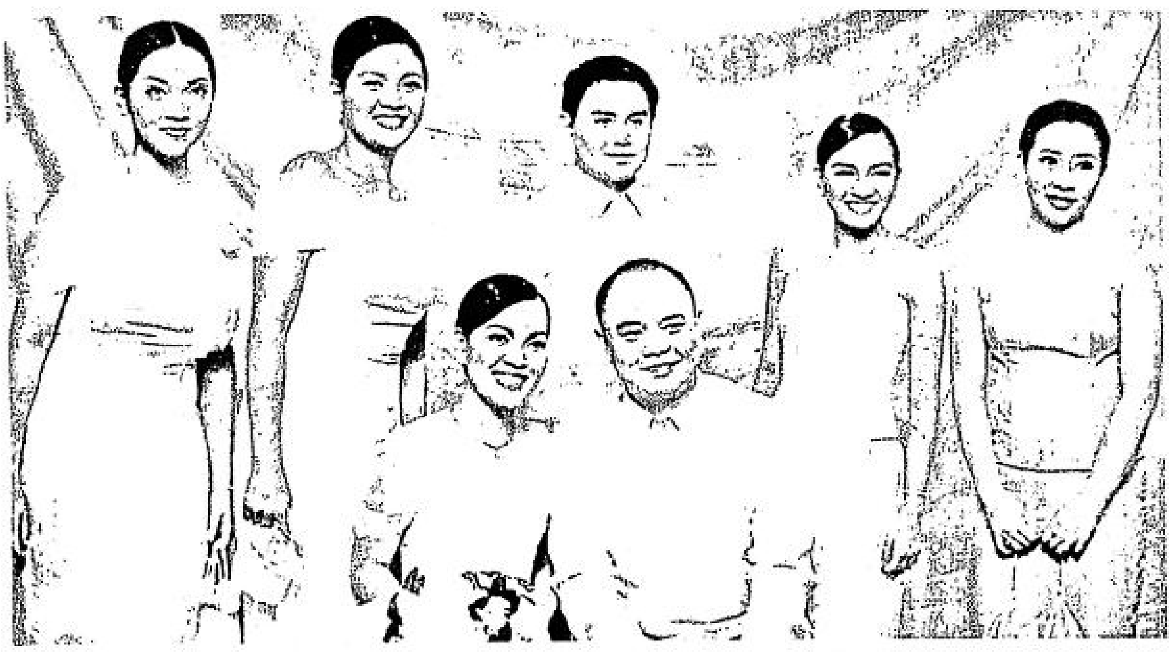
A true love affair



WITH THEIR siblings Grace Bagasin, Shella Bagasin, RJ Jabson, Gladys Bagasin and Pinky Jabson

LAWYER-TO-BE Eugene Oliver McCann Jabson and Dr. Glenda Rachel Roque Bagasin were wed in simple but elegant ceremonies at the Manila Cathedral. The bride walked down the aisle with her parents, Maj. Gen. Samuel and Glecy Bagasin, while soprano Rina Saporsantos hummed the couple's favorite song "Theme from Love Affair."

The groom waited at the altar with his parents, Butch and Jeanne Jabson.

The bride wore a two-piece embroidered *piña* gown encrusted with Swarovski crystals with a five-meter detachable *piña* train and silk illusion tulle veil executed by Larry Espinosa. The groom wore a traditional *piña* barong Tagalog. The gowns of the entourage, made by Espinosa and Mila de Leon, followed the mint and blush-pink color scheme.

Reception followed at the Manila Hotel's Fiesta Pavilion, which was transformed into an English garden by Baby Gutierrez of the Pacific Blooms. Saporsantos and Chris Ong performed during dinner. The groom also surprised his bride with a song number.

The newlyweds gave away pewter silver frames to guests.

THE TOWERING 7-ft cake by Ange-Lyn's

Sto. Domingo marks golden anniversary

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

STO. Domingo Church in Quezon City celebrates its 50th anniversary, coinciding with the fiesta of Our Lady of La Naval on Oct. 1-10.

The present church was inaugurated on Oct. 10, 1954, by Bishop Peregrin de la Fuente, OP, DD, then newly designated prelate of the Prelature Nullius of Batanes-Babuyanes. That year the Catholic Church also marked the centenary of the dogma declaring that the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin, giving her the title Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception.

This year's-celebration started on Sept. 30, 6 p.m., when the centuries-old image of Our Lady of La Naval was enthroned in the main altar. Throughout the year, she is at the left altar but, on her fiesta, she is transferred with pomp and solemnity to the main altar.

The nine-day Novena began on Oct. 1, 6 p.m., and will continue until Oct. 9. The feast day on Oct. 10 will be highlighted by a procession at 4 p.m. All the Dominican saints will be in the grand procession.

The procession 50 years ago began from the University of Sto. Tomas Chapel, where the image of the La Naval had been kept since the war.

The turnout of devotees was huge. Before the image could leave the UST grounds, the head of the procession was said to be already at the new church. The procession, which took three hours, was described as awesome, with candles flickering from the university to the church.

In old Intramuros

During Spanish times, the image of Our Lady of the Rosary of La Naval was enthroned in her own church in Intramuros. It was moved to the UST Chapel for safekeeping during World War II.

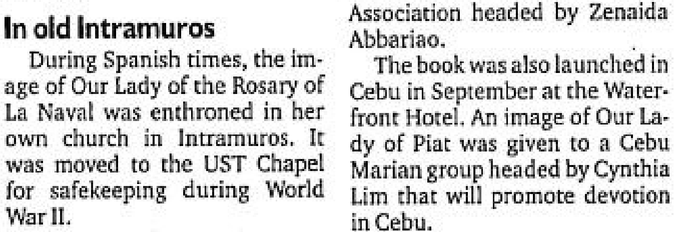
The yearly fiesta and procession of the Virgin draw thousands of devotees. Many people come to fulfill a *panata* or to ask the Virgin for help. They return to say "thank you." The Virgin's old church in Intramuros is now the site of the Ilustrado Restaurant.

Lady of Piat book in NY

The book on Our Lady of Piat by Bobby Caballero will be launched on Oct. 17 at the Philippine Apostolate offices, 55th Street, New York. Fr. Erno Diaz, administrator, will welcome Bobby and friends who will fly to New York on Oct. 10. Organizing the launch is the Eastern Board Cagayan Valley Association headed by Zenaida Abbariao.

The book was also launched in Cebu in September at the Waterfront Hotel. An image of Our Lady of Piat was given to a Cebu Marian group headed by Cynthia Lim that will promote devotion in Cebu.

The launch was attended by Margie Lhuillier, Honey Jarque Loop, Rosebud Sala and Debbie Enriquez, who has moved to Cebu and caters for dinners and parties. Also at the launch were Msgr. Samuel Baculi, vicar general of the archdiocese of Tuguegarao.



CYNTHIA Lim receives a statue of Our Lady of Piat from Msgr. Samuel Baculi while Caballero looks on.

OUR Lady of La Naval

The book is available at National Book Store and Powerbooks.

Mass

A Mass honoring Our Lady of La Leche will be held on Oct. 11, 5:30 p.m., at the Sta. Martha Chapel in Harrison Plaza. Fr. Nick Blanquisco, celebrant, will give a special blessing to mothers, and pregnant and childless women.

Baby Ticzon Gonzales, with the help of her first cousin Belen Ticzon Martel, has been propagating the devotion since her uncle left her an old image of Nuestra Señora de la Leche y Buen Parto (Our Lady of the Milk and Good Birth) four years ago. Since then, prayers from women who had difficulty in conceiving a child had reportedly been answered.

History

The image of the Blessed Virgin Mary breastfeeding the infant Jesus dates back to the 16th century in Madrid, Spain. In 1598, the image was rescued from irreverent hands and enthroned in the home of a couple. The woman and her unborn child were at risk of death. The husband prayed intently to Our Lady of La Leche to grant his wife a safe delivery. Our Lady heard the prayer and his wife and child were saved.

Together, the couple spread the news about our Lady's power with God to other families. Soon, the devotion became famous throughout Spain.

Made aware of our Lady's intercession, King Philip III, the ruler at that time, had a shrine built in honor of Our Lady of la Leche.

More than 20 years later, early Spanish settlers brought a replica to the United States and enshrined it at the Mission of Nombre de Dios in St. Augustine, Florida. It was the first shrine dedicated to the Blessed Mother in the US and was established on the spot where the first parish Mass was offered 55 years earlier.

The original chapel, built around 1615, was destroyed by gunfire during the colonial days and, later, by a hurricane. The present chapel houses a replica of the original statue destroyed during the Spanish Civil War in 1936.

MARGIE Lhuillier and author Bobby Caballero

Rosary for Life visits

The Rosary for Life Foundation focuses on preventing abortion by the praying of the Holy Rosary, and visits to government offices and parishes to give prayers and hold talks on the preciousness of life. A Mass is celebrated after the talk.

The Episcopal Commission on Family Life is assisting Rosary For Life Foundation.

Schedule of visits follows: Manila City Hall, Oct. 4-8; Mandaluyong City Hall, Oct. 11-15; San Juan City Hall, Oct. 18-22; Quezon City Hall, Oct. 25-29; National Electrification Administration, Nov. 8-12; and De la Strada Parish, Nov. 22-26. Parishes that want to be visited can text Cherrie at 0917-8520668 or call 4003447.

BRIDAL FAIR

The Bellevue Hotel's Laguna Ballroom will hold "Weddings at Bellevue" on Oct. 16-17. Call 7718181. From left: Mina Sabino, assistant director for sales; Jackie Aquino, JCA Productions fashion director; Cyndy Tan-Jarabata, general manager; and Ian Catacutan, senior events manager

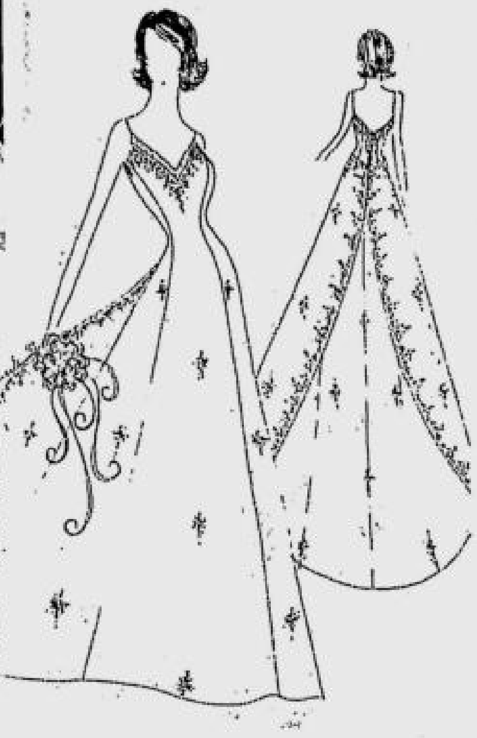
HOLIDAY Inn Resort Clark Field recently staged a bridal and debutante's fair, "Cruisin... The Weddings of Asia," at the Grand Ballroom. The ceremonial ribbon-cutting was led by Ole Morabe (right), president of Fashion Designers Association of the Phils., and Annie de la Cruz (left), executive assistant manager of the hotel. With them are Bobbie Tayag, Emilie Loyola and Jo Rubio. Holiday Inn is on Mimosa Drive, Mimosa Leisure Estate, Clark Field, Pampanga. Call 8451888 or (045) 5998000.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

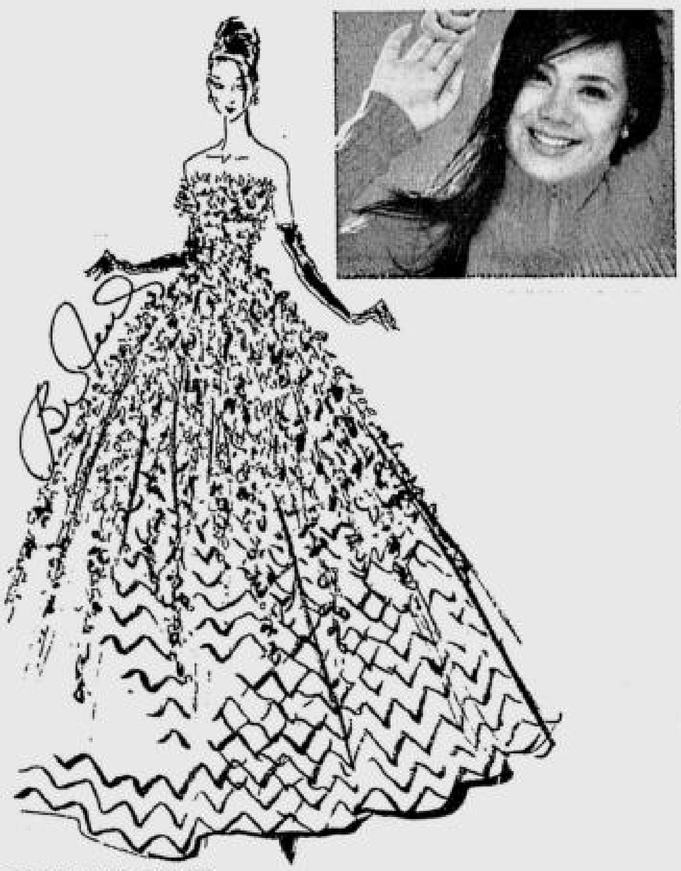
RIVERA-SAN ANDRES

Mark Angelo Y. Rivera and **Ma. Pia A. San Andres** tied the knot Sept. 29 at the Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth and The Life (Reclamation Area), Pasay City. Reception was held at Villa Immaculada, Intramuros. **Merlene J. Marcelo** of Merjamar Design Wear designed the bridal gown.



RASOS-TIBURCIO

Rizal Guira Rasos, son of **Lucio** and **Marciana Rasos**, will marry **Junalyn Andres Tiburcio**, daughter of **Jose** and **Norma Tiburcio**, on Oct. 8 at St. James Parish Church, Santiago City, Isabela. Reception will follow at the Carig Plaza Hotel, Santiago City, Isabela.

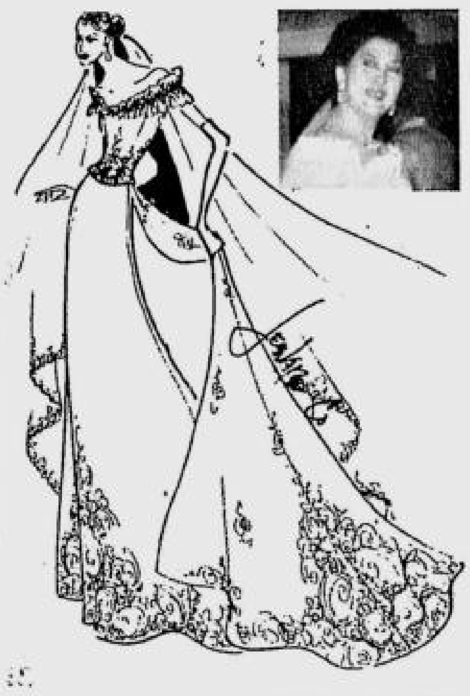


CABRAL DEBUT

Francesca Felice Castro Cabral, only child of **Aristedes** and **Dr. Cristina Cabral**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on Oct. 9 at the Isla Ballrooms of Edsa Shangri-La Hotel.

Chesca is a communication arts sophomore at the University of Santo Tomas.

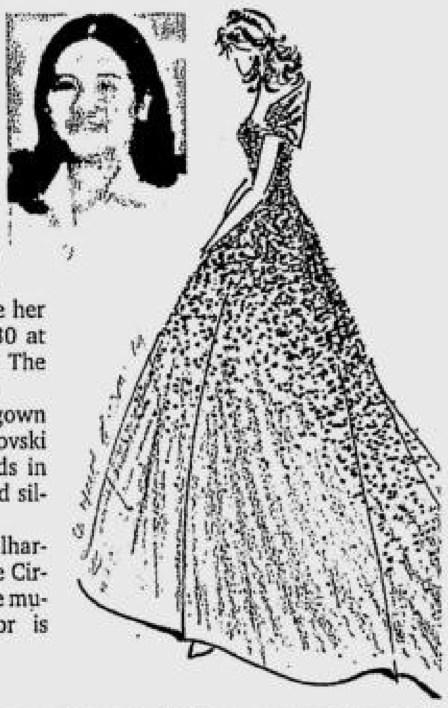
She will wear a creation of her baptismal godfather, **Ben Farrales**—a gown of white ribbon lace accented with cascading jasmine silk flowers on the skirt.



DIZON RUBY ANNIVERSARY

Ma. Adelaida Dizon and **Ruben Dizon** celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Sept. 27 at Mt. Carmel Church.

Ms Dizon wore a frosted ivory organdy gown with a ruffled off-shoulder bodice, A-line skirt and detachable two-meter train. It was fully beaded with crystal pearl and nakar beads. The gown was designed by **Leonardo Co.**



CAMPAÑA DEBUT

Carleen Campaña, a mass communication sophomore at St. Scholastica's College and youngest daughter of provincial board member **Dencito P. Campaña** and **Bella J. Campaña**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on Oct. 30 at the Grand Ballroom of The Westin Philippine Plaza.

She will wear a ball gown embellished with Swarovski crystals and caviar beads in monochromatic blue and silver.

The Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and the Circus Band will provide the music. Overall coordinator is **Ernest E. Santos.**

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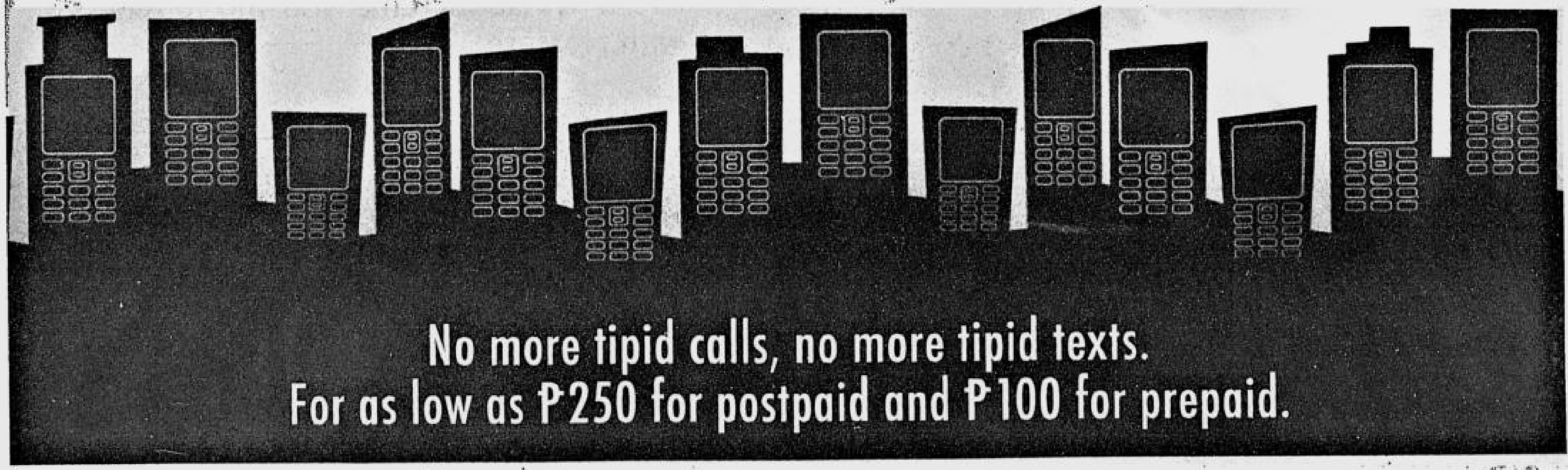

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For as low as ₱250 for postpaid and ₱100 for prepaid.

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Apply for a Sun Cellular postpaid subscription and enroll your account to 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited. An affordable fee of ₱250 per month on top of your monthly service fee is all it takes to enjoy round-the-clock calls and texts. Existing subscribers may visit The Sun Shops or simply call the Sun hotline (02) 395-8000 via landline or 200 using a Sun Cellular phone to have their 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited activated.

PREPAID

- Avail of it via 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited cards and e-pins or via text. You have two denominations with corresponding validity periods to choose from:

₱100
24/7 CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED
sun

Unlimited for 10 days

₱250
24/7 CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED
sun

Unlimited for 30 days

- 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited cards and e-pins can be purchased and loaded up just like a regular Sun Cellular Prepaid call card.
- To load up via text, simply key in **CTU<space>100** and send to 247 for the ₱100 denomination or **CTU<space>250** and send to 247 for the ₱250 denomination. You will receive a text message containing a number series. Key in this number series and press SEND.

Sun Cellular: Better network, better value.

For more details, call the Sun Cellular hotline: dial 200 toll-free using your Sun Cellular phone or 02-395-8000 via landline. You may also visit the website www.suncellular.com.ph

sun CELLULAR
Everything important is under the Sun

SUN CELLULAR

The unlimited Sun advantage

Sun Cellular's biggest subscriber deal: no-limit call and text 24/7

WITH today's mobile lifestyle, one can enjoy instant connection to anyone, anywhere with just a click of a mobile device. The importance of being connected explains the emergence of cellular phones being less of a luxury but more of a necessity. But this convenience comes with a high price. If only one can completely set aside expensive call and messaging rates while trying to stay connected. Well, brace yourself for an awesome surprise.

SUN/ 12

You, the consumer, gave us this award. Thank you.

SUN CELLULAR
Everything Important is Under the Sun

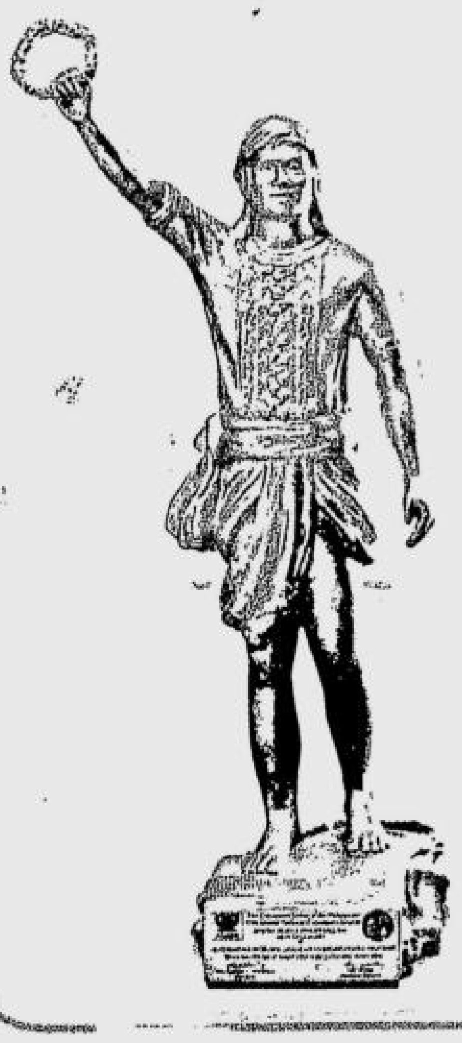
You made us your winner because we gave you these choices:

- Low airtime and text rates.
- Lowest IDD rate.
- Consumable Monthly Service Fee.
- Affordable postpaid plans, like Plan 250.
- Real Time Balance Inquiry for Prepaid.
- Sun Cellular Extensions. Giving free phones for the whole family and ensuring that you'll never forget to load their prepaid lines.
- Convert-A-Load. Giving you 50% more texts to other networks.
- Sureload Prepaid SIM pack and phonekits. Giving you unbeatable value.

But we're not stopping. We're giving you 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited.
So you can afford to call and text nonstop, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Just add ₱250 to your current Sun postpaid plan or
as low as ₱100 for prepaid.

Your continued satisfaction is our ultimate reward.

24/7 CALL • TEXT UNLIMITED | Better network. Better value.



SUN CELLULAR, AWARDED
MOST OUTSTANDING WIRELESS CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDER
FOR 2004 BY THE CONSUMERS' UNION OF THE PHILIPPINES

Sun Cellular's biggest subscriber deal: no-limit call and text 24/7

From page 11

Starting October 1, you can enjoy the freedom and convenience of unlimited call and text messaging at a low fixed rate as Sun Cellular activates its 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited service. An unmatched innovation in mobile communications service, this unbeatable deal lets you hook up with fellow Sun Cellular subscribers and enjoy unlimited calling and texting - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

Open to both postpaid and prepaid subscribers, 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited lets you make voice calls and send messages to anyone in the Sun Cellular network. No need to worry about skyrocketing call fees or running out of text credits.

Postpaid subscribers can enjoy this irresistible plan by enrolling to 24/7Call and Text Unlimited monthly service. Simply enroll and pay an additional P250 to your monthly service fee and you're already in the unlimited call and text plan for the whole month.

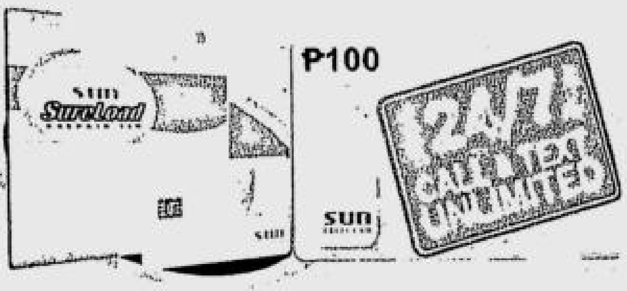
For prepaid subscribers, just load up 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited service via 224/7 Call & Text Unlimited call cards, e-pins or via SMS. There are two denomination cards to choose from - P100 with 10-day expiry and P250 with 30-day expiry.

Sun Cellular's 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited is the ideal service for real and meaningful connection. It is the perfect solution to optimize mobile connection without being hounded by the costs. Just imagine the freedom and the convenience of 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited. In business operations, it is perfect for companies and large sales organizations to maintain affordable communications cost, resulting to enhanced productivity. For students and barkadas, it is a budget-friendly scheme to keep track of each other, whether in gimmicks or some serious group studying without worrying on their airtime expenses. For Mom, Dad and kids, it is a great help to stay connected all day long, like they never left home. Couples can spend a lot of sweet mobile moments together, thereby nurturing their bond even when away from each other. There's an infinite number of reasons why you have to take advantage of Sun Cellular's 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited.

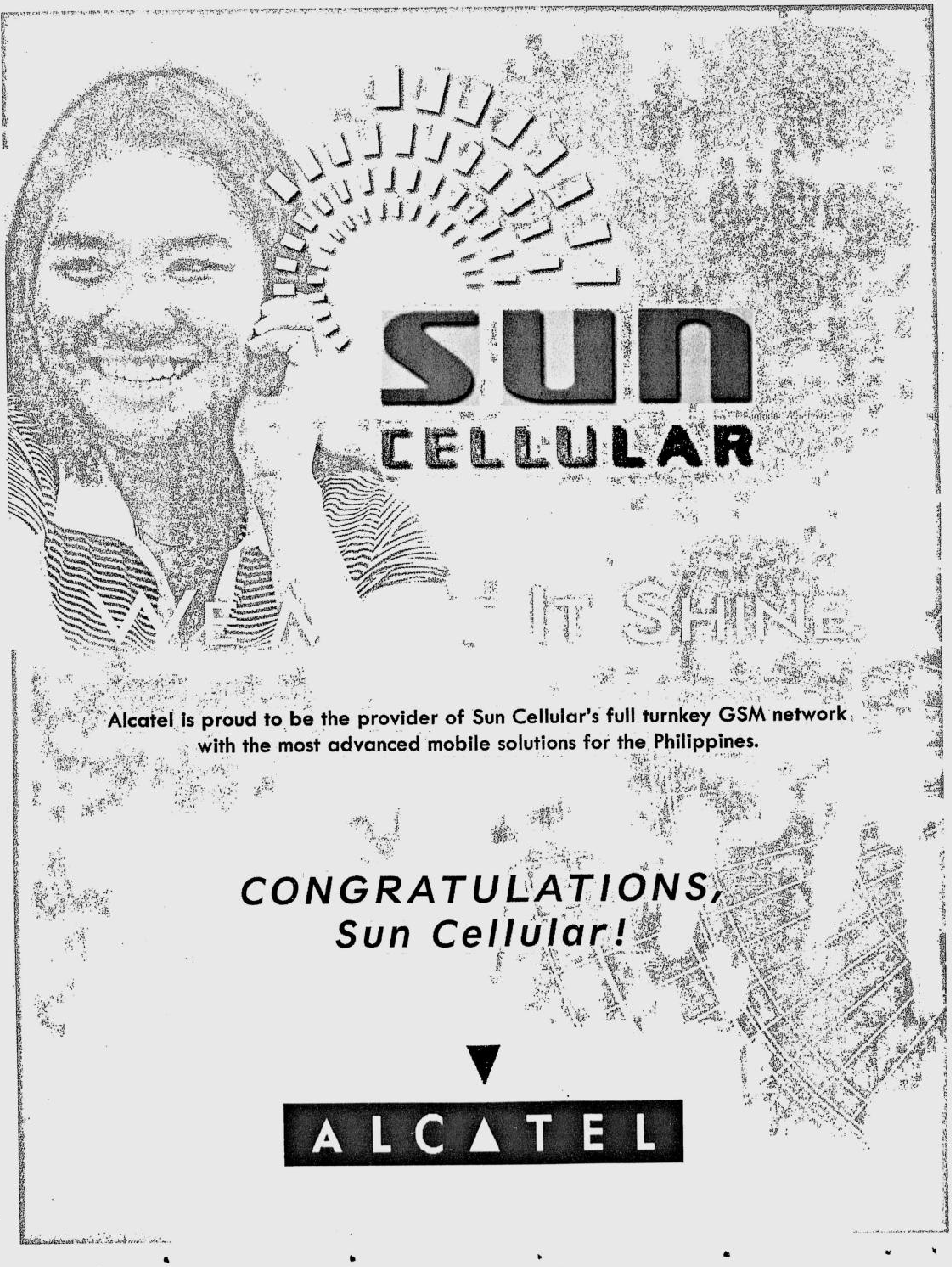
Here's an accompanying treat. Subscribe from October 1 to 31, 2004 and be one of the first new subscribers to enjoy up to 30 days of free trial. New postpaid subscribers' free 30-day trial period starts on the 1st day of their billing cycle while new prepaid subscribers' free 15-day trial period begins 24 hours after their first call or text. Active Sun Cellular postpaid and prepaid subscribers as of September 30 this year will also enjoy the same free trial period. So hurry, and be one of the first new subscribers to experience this incredible offer free!

Sun Cellular's 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited is the easiest and most affordable way to get in touch with people and update on important issues - personal, business, and emergency. It's one irresistible reason to make the BIG SWITCH to Sun Cellular now!

For more information on Sun Cellular, visit its website at www.suncellular.com.ph or call its 24-hour hotline number at 395-8000.



₱250
24/7 CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED
sun



Alcatel is proud to be the provider of Sun Cellular's full turnkey GSM network with the most advanced mobile solutions for the Philippines.

CONGRATULATIONS,
Sun Cellular!

ALCATEL

CUP'S outstanding wireless cellular communications provider in RP

SUN Cellular, the GSM mobile phone network of Digitel Mobile Philippines Inc. (DMPI), bagged the Most Outstanding Wireless Cellular Communications Provider Award from the Consumers Union of the Philippines (CUP) 15th Annual National Consumers Awards.

CUP is one of the biggest and premiere consumer organizations in the Philippines duly recognized by the government, business sector, civic, religious groups and consumers. It seeks to encourage manufacturers, producers, wholesalers, retailers, businessmen, professionals, traders and craftsmen to strive for excellence and render the best service that is worth every peso of the consumers.

Launched only last April 2003, Sun Cellular bested other mobile operators for Most Outstanding Wireless Cellular Communications Provider citation based on its strong consumer commitment in the following areas that have spelled a major innovation and change of landscape for the telecommunication industry.

Sun Cellular prides itself in introducing the I-Text and I-Speak Plans that revolutionized the telecom industry. It gives even lower text and voice rates depending on your mobile habits. They were the first to offer the Consumable Postpaid Plans where you can charge all your voice calls against the Monthly Service Fee. The Sun SureLoad and Sun Convert-a-Load are innovative prepaid product offers that give subscribers real value for money. Sun's introduction of lowest denomination prepaid call cards early last year and bonus load promotion forced the competition to adjust their respective offerings accordingly.

These are just some of the many innovative product offerings of Sun Cellular that moved the market to lower airtime rates, shift to consumable post-paid plans, offer bonus load, among other things.

The citation was handed out during the awards rites held last Aug. 27, at Le Pavillion, Roxas Boulevard. Top Sun Cellular executives attended the event to receive the prestigious Annual National Consumers Awards (Anca) statuette, which symbolizes the consumers' appreciation for having served and championed their interests.

Sun Cellular is a proud recipient of this prestigious award. "This recognition inspires Sun Cellular to continuously strive in providing consumers a viable choice in wireless communication. Sun Cellular is committed, more than ever, to provide quality network and better value, to continuously improve and to further excel in its service to the consumers" says Annie Naval, vice president for marketing.

Coverage is one of the major thrusts of Sun Cellular. It has partnered with global telecommunications infrastructure giants like Alcatel and Ericsson to rollout its aggressive network expansion coverage. To date, it has embarked on major cellsites building and network expansion covering the National Capital Region (NCR), Mega Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Sun Cellular is committed to deliver mobile phone services that only spell excellence. Inspired by the recognition it received for its many consumer-relevant services, the company is fueled to continually devise more ways to live up to the expectations of the subscribers. Sun Cellular will continue to strive in providing consumers the "connection" to sustain meaningful relationships - without the huge costs.

Sun Cellular prides itself in being the only mobile phone network that consistently offers unbeatable deals to its subscribers. These include the lowest call and text messaging rates, free text credit allocations, value-packed SIM and reload cards, low postpaid plans, consumable Monthly Service Fees (MSF) for postpaid subscribers, and even free handsets! .

And as if it's not enough, this network has devised yet another amazing deal. Starting October 1, Sun Cellular subscribers can enjoy the 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited Service. Sun Cellular pioneers another breakthrough when it empowers those within the Sun Cellular network to avail of unlimited call and text for local services at a low fixed monthly rate. To avail of the service, postpaid subscribers simply need to add P250 to their MSF, after which they are automatically enrolled in the unlimited call and text plan for the month.

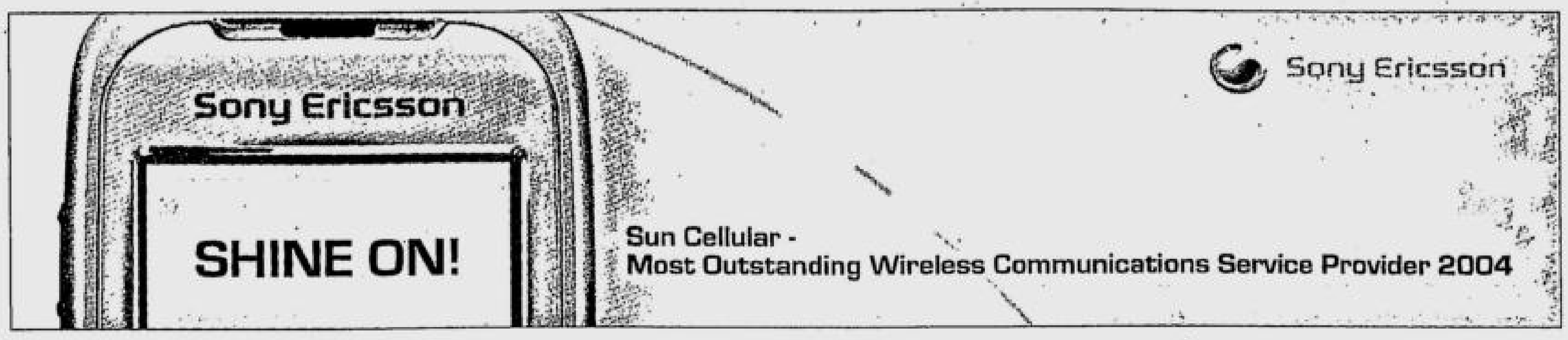
Prepaid subscribers need to load their mobile phones with 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited call cards, e-pins or via SMS. Calls and texts made to other networks will be debited from regular airtime load credits.

And for the new subscribers coming in between Oct. 1 to 31, they even get a Free Trial of this 24/7 Call and Text Unlimited for up to 30 days!

Along with delivering high performance network coverage, subscriber deals and innovative features and services, Sun Cellular is very much aware of the need to be in touch with its subscribers all the time. After all, "connectivity and value-for-money" is what the company is all about, and it ensures it is ready to assist its valued customers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Sun Cellular has invested in a 24/7 Customer Care facility frontlined by its hotline number 395-8000, online through www.suncellular.com.

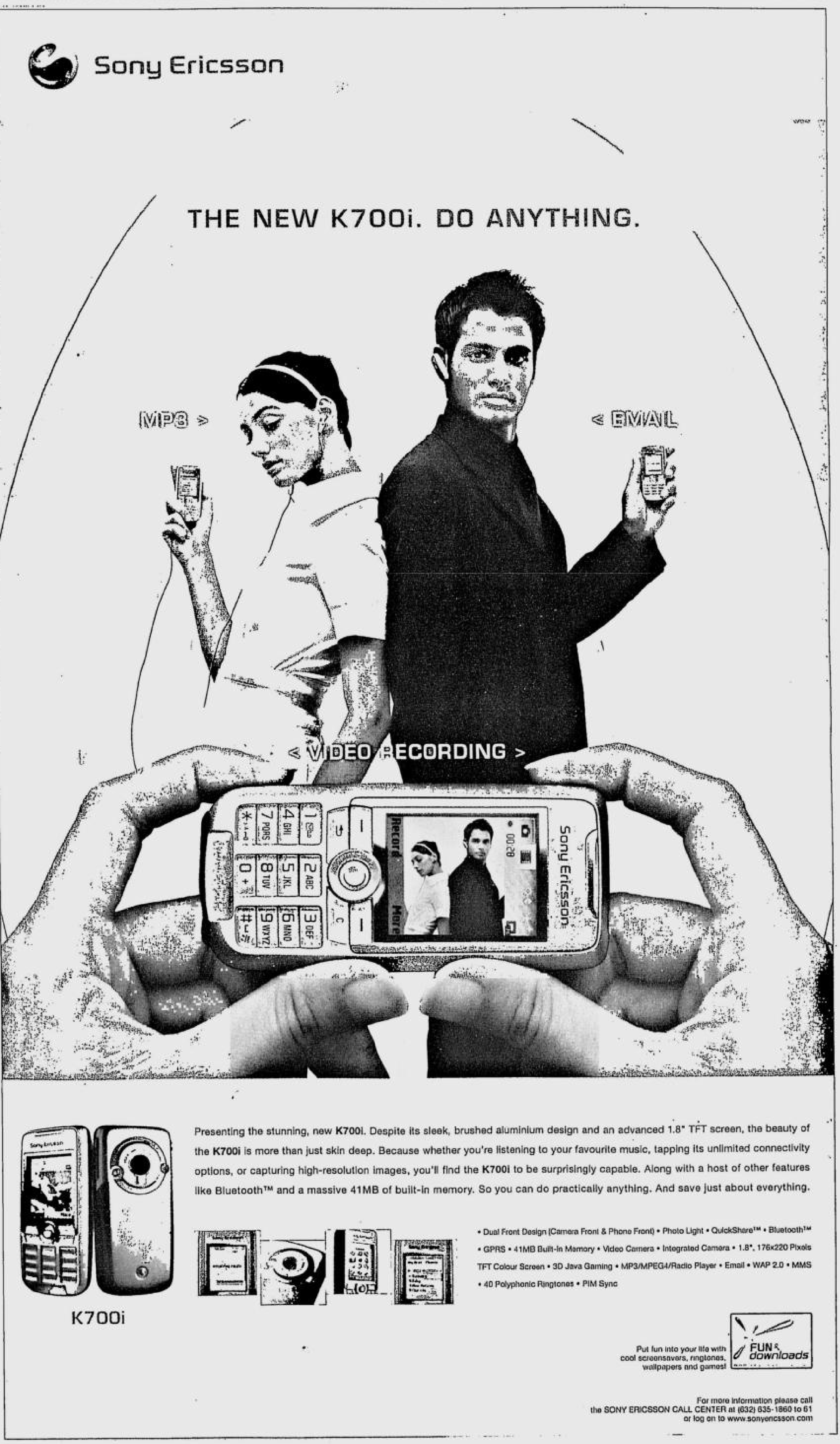
15TH ANNUAL NATIONAL
CONSUMERS AWARDS

SHOWN are (from left) Joey Vincoy-VP for network operations, Mel Ocampo-VP for admin and marketing logistics, Annie Naval-VP for marketing, Tess Castillo-SVP for comptrollership, Joan Duenas-AVP for postpaid acquisition and loyalty, Ardie Balderrama-AVP for prepaid acquisition and loyalty, Menchie Briones-AVP for customer relations.



Sony Ericsson

Sun Cellular -
Most Outstanding Wireless Communications Service Provider 2004



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Sun undergoes network expansion nationwide

More than just a necessary business undertaking, Sun's commitment to cover as many areas as possible all over the Philippines reflects the company's initiative to help improve the lives of Filipinos anywhere

CONSISTENT with its goal of providing optimum mobile communications experience to as many Filipinos as possible, Sun Cellular embarked on a long-term network expansion covering Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, assuring clear, reliable and high quality cellular phone service for its rapidly growing number of subscribers.

In Luzon, the network's infrastructure rollout was accomplished in partnership with Alcatel Philippines. This tie-up further boosted the rapid pace of business and commerce in the National Capital Region (NCR) as network coverage was beefed up in Manila, Makati, Quezon City, Parañaque, Muntinlupa, Pasay, Valenzuela and Caloocan.

In the so-called Mega Manila areas of Bulacan, Batangas, Cavite and Laguna, both network improvement and building of new cell sites were accomplished, helping usher in the urbanization shift in these rapidly developing areas.

Specifically, coverage improvements were facilitated in Bulacan (San Jose Del Monte, Malolos, Sta. Maria and San Miguel); Batangas (Batangas City, Lipa City and Lemery); Cavite (Bacoor, Dasmariñas, Tanza, Gen. Trias and Alfonso); Laguna (San Pedro, Sta. Rosa and Calamba).

Meanwhile, new cell sites were installed in Calaca, San Juan, Laurel, Alitagtag, Sta. Teresita and San Pascual in Batangas; Maragondon, Amadeo and Gen. E.Aguinaldo in Cavite; and Bay, Liliw, Pila and Pagsanjan in Laguna.

For bustling North Luzon, coverage was intensified in Isabela (Ilagan City); Pampanga (Angeles, San Fernando City, Guagua and Urdaneta); and Zambales (Botolan and Iba).

New cell sites were built in Pangasinan (Rosales); Quezon Province (Gumaca); Cagayan (Solana and Gattaran); Isabela (San Isidro); Nueva Viscaya (Bayombong); Nueva Ecija (Jaen, San Leonardo and Palayan); Bataan (Samal); and Pampanga (Porac, Floridablanca, San Simon and Macabebe).

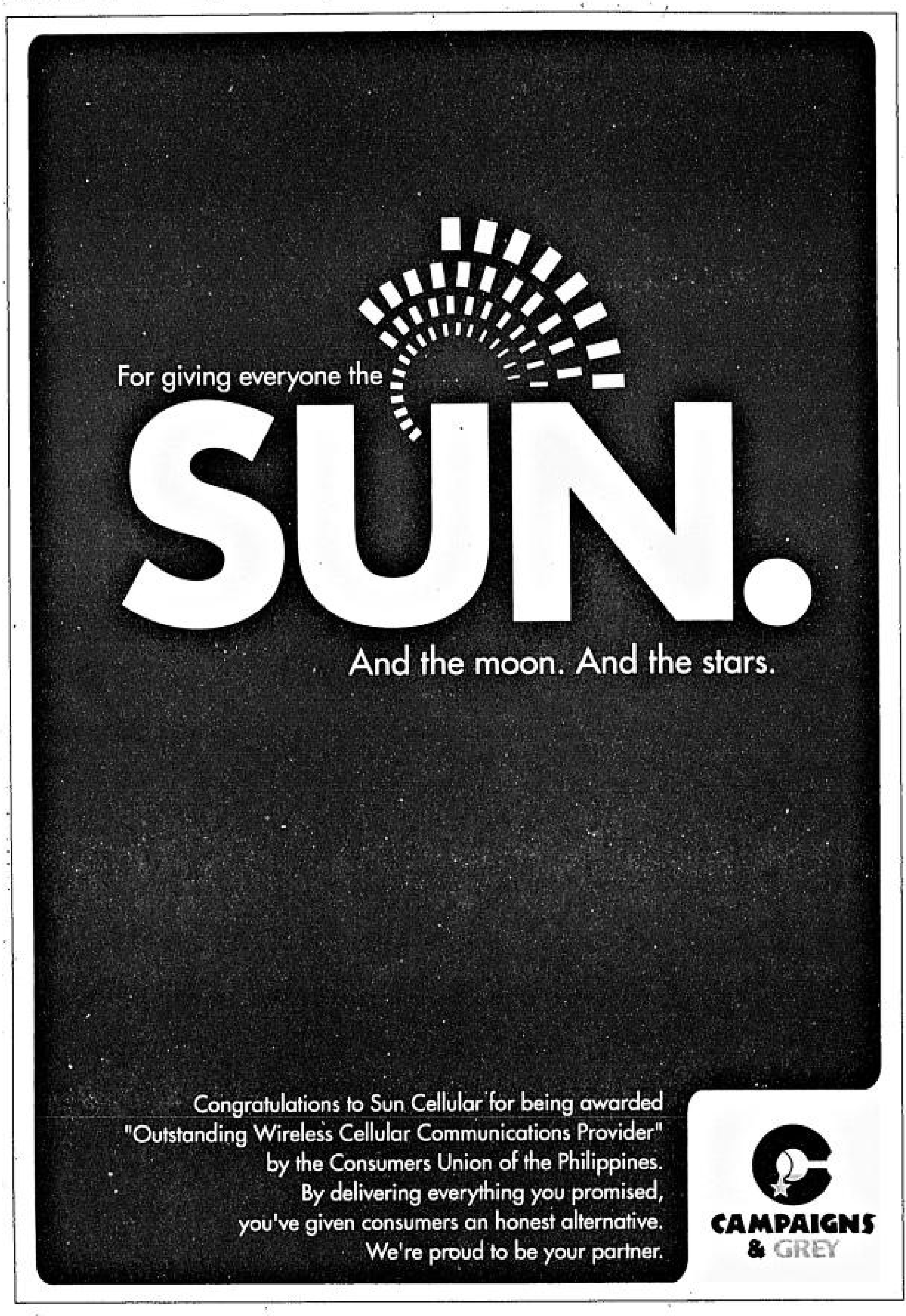
Not to be left behind, South Luzon will now also enjoy enhanced services from Sun, with new cell sites in Calapan, Oriental Mindoro. Coverage was likewise improved in Antipolo City and Pillila in Rizal Province.

Aside from improving all major points in Luzon, Sun Cellular in partnership with another telecommunications infrastructure firm Ericsson embarked on coverage expansion in key and secondary cities already in Visayas and Mindanao.

Keeping up with the robust growth of Visayas, additional cell sites were installed in Aklan (Mala), Capiz (Visayas), Iloilo (Passi); Cebu (towns of Argao, Oslob, Santander, Carcar, Compostela, Consolacion, Naga, San Fernando, Alcoy, Dalaguete, Boljoon, Minglanilla, Sibonga and Carmen); and Leyte (Ormoc). Improvement of existing site was done in popular Boracay Island.

Doing its share of improving the lives of Filipinos in Mindanao, Sun Cellular commenced the structuring of new cell sites in a number of key areas in the region namely Misamis Oriental (Manticao, Initao, El Salvador, Laguindingan, Gitagum, Opol, Lugait and Libertad); Davao del Sur (Sta. Cruz, Padada, Sulop, Malalag, Digos); Davao Del Norte (Samal Island); South Cotobato (Polomok), Sarangani (Malungan and Alabel); Lanao del Norte (Iligan); and Sarangani (Malungon and Alabel). Improvement of existing sites were done in Misamis Oriental (Cagayan de Oro City) and Davao del Sur (Davao City).

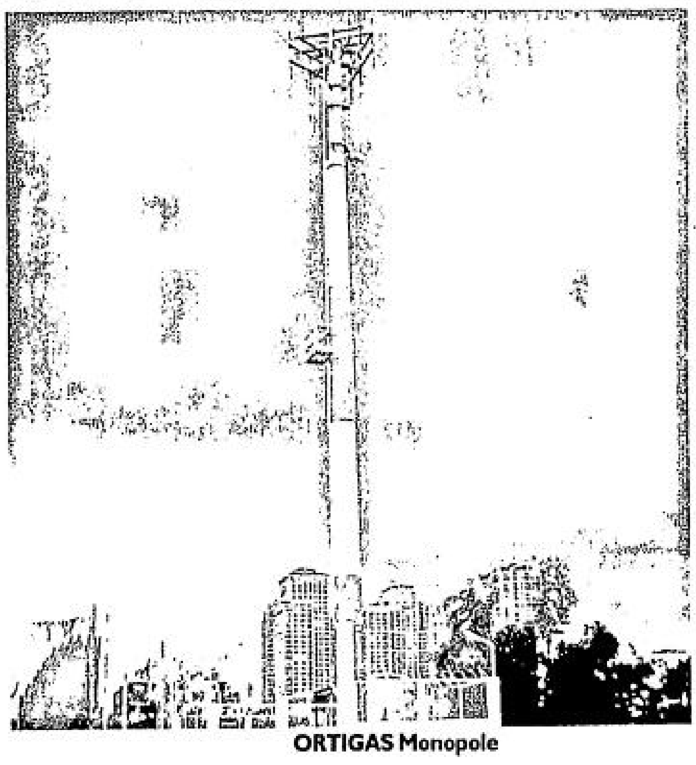
More than just a necessary business undertaking, Sun's commitment to cover as many areas as possible all over the Philippines reflects the company's initiative to help improve the lives of Filipinos anywhere, affording them equal opportunities to enjoy the convenience of mobile technology.



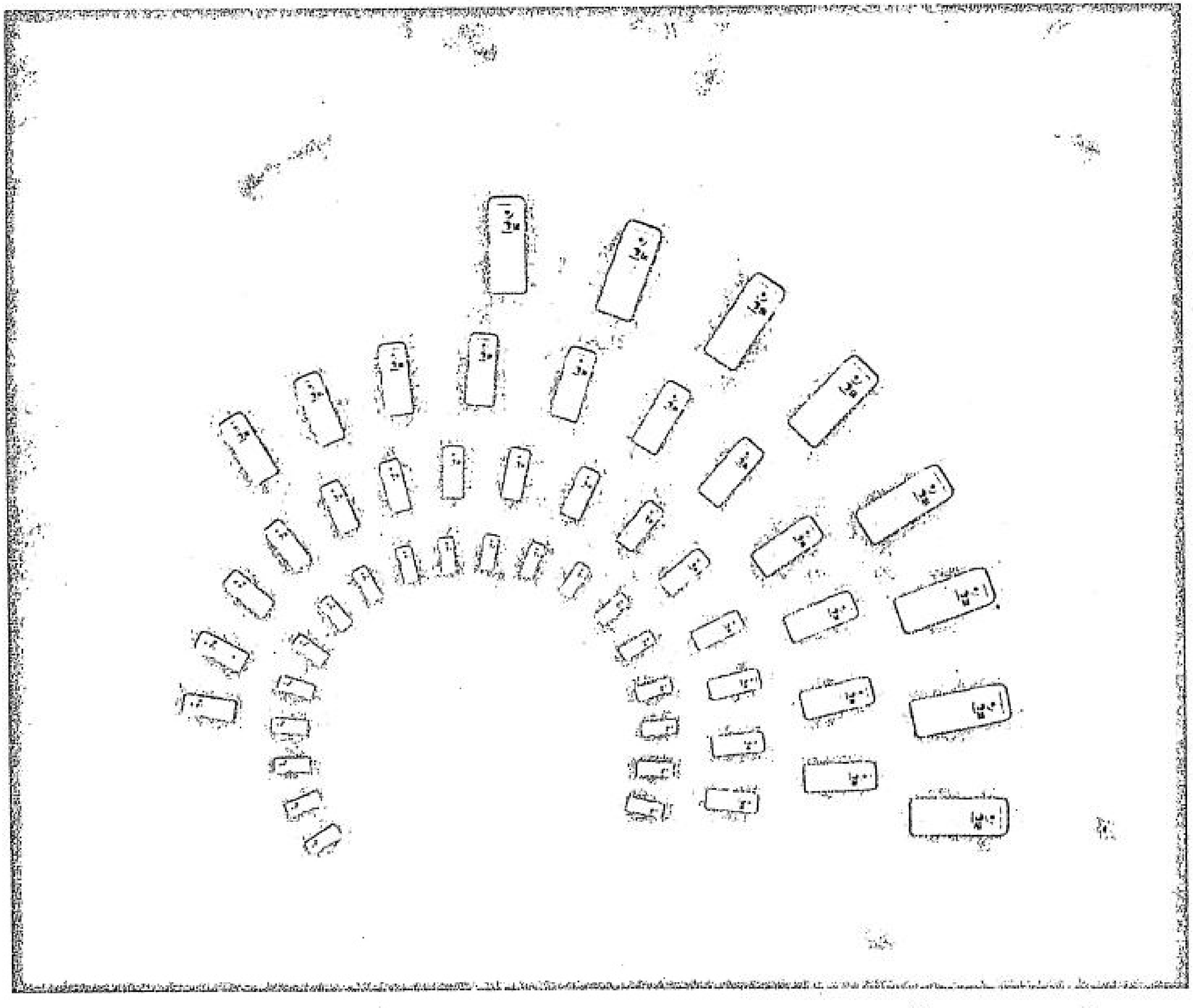
Congratulations to Sun Cellular for being awarded
"Outstanding Wireless Cellular Communications Provider"
by the Consumers Union of the Philippines.
By delivering everything you promised,
you've given consumers an honest alternative.
We're proud to be your partner.

CAMPAIGNS & GREY

BAGUIO Tower



ORTIGAS Monopole



Congratulations to Sun Cellular for being the
Most Outstanding Wireless Communications Provider of 2004.

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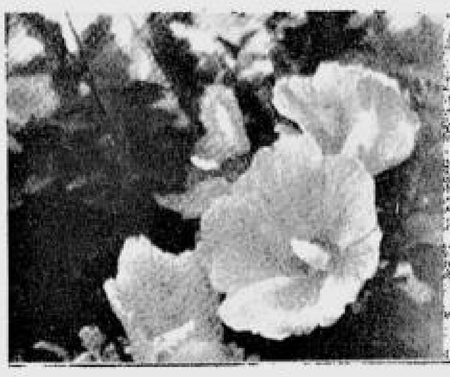
Panasonic
ideas for life



4337th Foundation Day of Korea

The 'mandate for innovative change' shaping a new Korea

NOW THAT the "Age of Change" has arrived, a global competition for innovative transformation continues to intensify. It is, therefore, readily apparent that the fate of nations and peoples will be determined not only by the pace of change, but also an ability and willingness to embrace new ideas and practices.

This is a global environment that has made swift, genuine, all-encompassing change in Korea a necessity for all segments of society. The Participatory Government came to office with a mandate for innovative change in Korea, which reflects the aspirations of the citizenry for a new democratic social order that ensures equitable participation.

For the past year while Korea has been dealing with significant challenges, marked changes have been initiated nationwide. Korea is well on its way to making the necessary transformations and is now laying the groundwork for a new future. Innovative change is clearly becoming the social impetus behind the emergence of a new political climate and leadership culture. This necessarily means, of course, that the roles of government, politicians, média, and the business community be redefined.

Transparency and fair market competition are at the same time becoming the order of the day. In fact, Korea is now undergoing extensive, multifaceted reformation. Vestiges of an authoritarian past are being eliminated from all segments of society to make room for a new order based on performance and efficiency. A new environment is being created to unleash the innovative potential of Korea and its people.

The country and its government are no longer ruled by a single individual or power elite, but rather by a democratic system. This is a new order in which exclusivity and the disproportionate concentration of power will cease to exist. Open communication and compromise among various social groups is an integral part of this new democratic order.

Although the Korean economy has come under increasing pressure, the government has not pursued short-term solutions. The policy focus has instead been

KOREA/J2

From 'Goryeo' to 'Korea', a brief history

THE FIRST legendary kingdom, Gojoseon (ancient Joseon), was formed in 2333 BC. Three ancient kingdoms of Goguryeo (37 BC-AD 668), Baekje (18 BC-AD 660), and Silla (57 BC-AD 935) ruled the entire Korean peninsula and part of Manchuria by the first century BC. Baekje and Goguryeo were ultimately vanquished by Silla in AD 660 and 668, respectively. The Unified Silla (668-935) period was a golden age of Korean culture especially in Buddhist art. In the succeeding Goryeo Dynasty (918-1392), an aristocratic government was instituted. Buddhism was the state religion. "Korea" is a derivative of "Goryeo.'

The Joseron Dynasty (1392-1910) moved its capital to Hanyang (now Seoul) from Gaegyeong (Gaeseong) in 1394 and made political and economic reforms, adopting Confucianism as the state ideology.

The surge of creative literary endeavors and invention of hangeul, the Korean alphabet, invest this period with special cultural significance. Japan forcibly annexed Korea in 1910, ending the Dynasty. Korea was under Japanese colonial rule for 35 years until the end of World War II.

On Aug. 15, 1945, Korea was liberated from Japan, only to be divided into South Korea and North Korea. The Republic of Korea in the south established an independent government in 1948. The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when North Korea invaded the South. An armistice agreement was signed in 1953.

South Korea's tireless post-war reconstruction efforts were highly successful in her economic development and securing sociopolitical stability. In June 2000, the two Koreas held a historic summit meeting, opening an era of reconciliation and cooperation on the Korean Peninsula.

ON BEHALF of the Filipino people and on my own, I wish to extend my sincerest congratulations to the people and Government of the Republic of Korea on their National Day.

I am very pleased with the development of our relations since their establishment fifty-five years ago. Today, we mark the special friendship and cooperation between our two countries, which are both moving towards the future with greater clarity of shared goals and aspirations.

I also wish to commend the leaders and people of the Republic of Korea for their admirable efforts in promoting the economic development of their country, which enabled it to become one of our largest trading partners and a major source of development assistance and investments. More significantly, the Republic of Korea is now the largest single country source of tourists in the Philippines.

As you celebrate this auspicious occasion, I am confident that the relations between our two countries will be further enhanced in the pursuit of mutually beneficial goals. I have every reason to believe that the close partnership between our two peoples will reach even higher levels of friendship and cooperation in the future.

Mabuhay!

GMArroyo
GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

IT IS with great pleasure to send greetings to all of you on this joyous and historic occasion of the 4337th Foundation Day of Korea.

The commemoration of the Foundation Day of Korea is of great significance in fully demonstrating the pride and honor of the Korean people who has existed as a nation for five thousand years with a long distinctive history and ancient culture. Today, we celebrate not only the spirit and vitality of the Korean people, but also our continuing commitment to the ideals of freedom and democracy.

At present, the Government of His Excellency President Roh Moo-hyun is putting its full efforts to lay the ground to achieving a Korea resilient to the challenges of the 21st century. The government's new economic and social vision of a "Dynamic Korea" envisage a new Korea that can withstand internal and external challenges through a system of innovation and social integration.

We recall with profound gratitude the contribution of our allies and friends in making Korea the strong nation that it is today. The Government and people of Korea are particularly grateful to the Philippines and to our Filipino friends who came to our aid during the Korean War in our quest to uphold our common cause of peace and democracy.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1949, cooperation between Korea and the Philippines continues to flourish in the fields of international diplomacy, economic development and trade, culture, education and human capacity building. Being a dialogue partner to Asean, Korea continues to work closely with the Philippines towards our journey to a better regional and global community. In the field of economic cooperation, Korea has consistently ranked as one of the top trading partners as well as a major investor in the Philippines. Koreans also hold the status of being the largest tourist group visiting the Philippines.

Korea applauds President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's 10-point agenda and supports the genuine desire and commitment of the Philippine government to eradicate poverty and to improve the welfare of its people. In line with this, the Korean government has provided development assistance to the Philippines through the Korea International Cooperation Agency for the establishment of Information Technology and Vocational Training Centers in Luzon and Mindanao and the dispatch of Korean volunteers for technical cooperation programs. Korea, through its EDCF, will also fund important infrastructure projects such as the South Manila Commuter Rail and the Laguindingan Airport in Mindanao.

The Korean government also stands firmly behind the Philippine government's campaign to provide employment opportunities to its people. This commitment is embodied in the Memorandum of Understanding on the newly implemented Employment Permit System. The Philippines is the first country to send workers to Korea under the EPS, in which Filipino workers shall have their basic rights protected equally as Koreans, as the Korean government recognizes that Filipinos make a massive contribution to the diverse industries of our country.

As we celebrate this significant occasion, we renew our determination to build on the strong bonds of cooperation and friendly relations between Korea and the Philippines. Let us all look forward to a future of continued friendship and collaboration between our two great nations as we pursue greater prosperity for our peoples.

Mabuhay!

Yu Myung-Hwan
Ambassador

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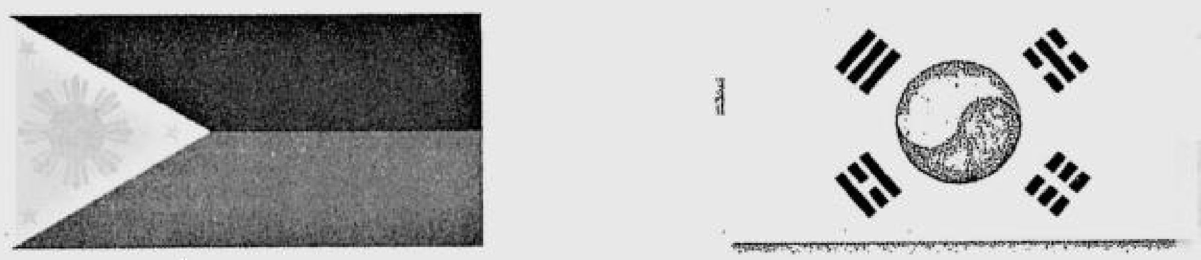

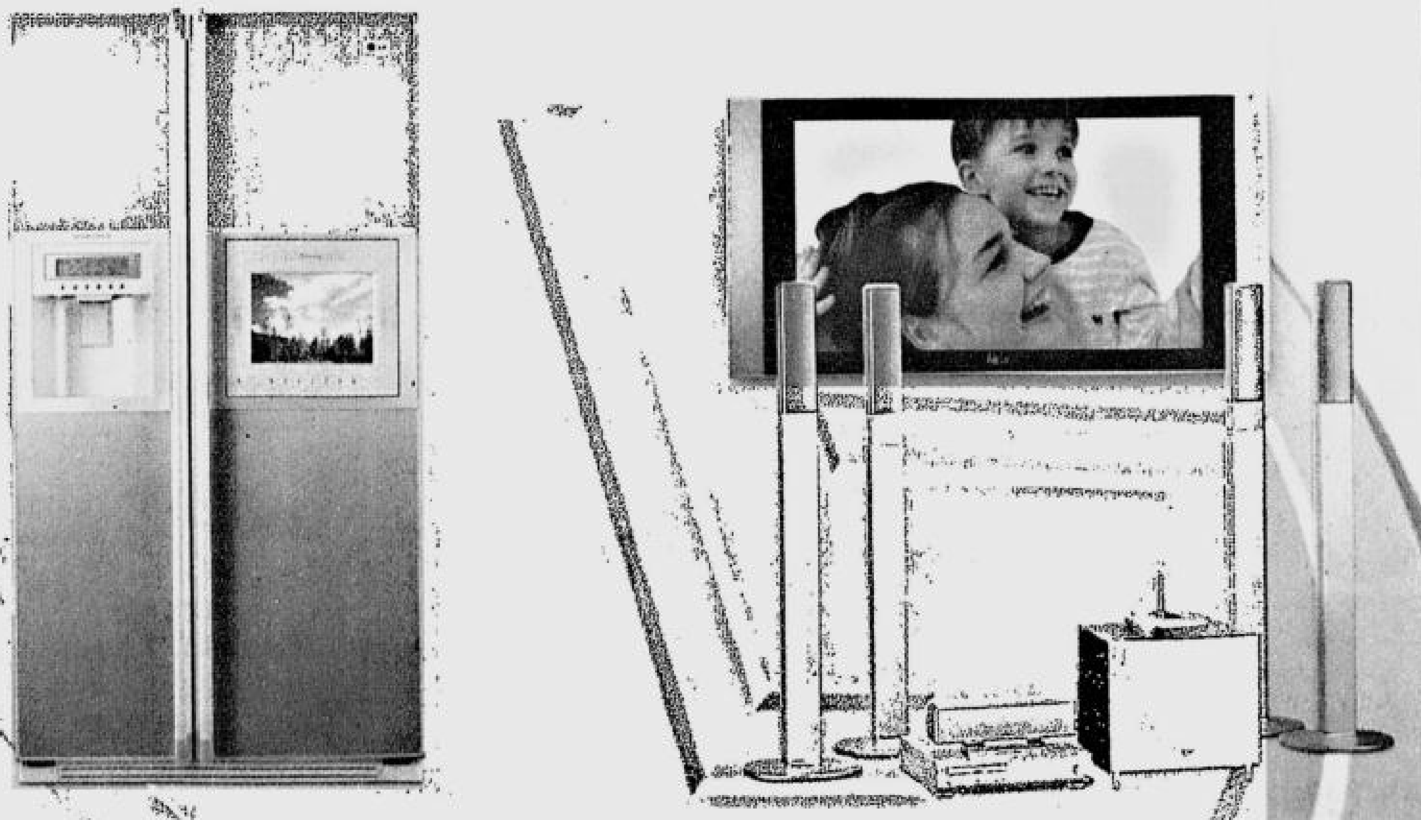

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The 'mandate for innovative change' shaping a new Korea

From page J1

on stabilizing economic fundamentals to ensure long-term growth. This is being accomplished by enhancing technological innovation, promoting balanced national development, fostering a new generation of high growth industries, and striving to become an economic hub in Northeast Asia.

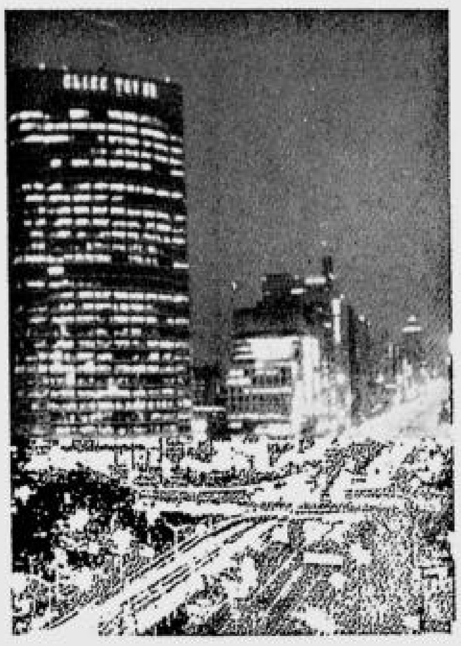
Government policies have at the same time been premised on establishing an innovation-oriented economic system. Korea will continue to be in a dynamic state of transformation for the foreseeable future, as it climbs the economic development ladder rung by rung to become an advanced OECD nation with a per capita income in excess of $20,000.

Given that the foundation for such transformations is now being laid, however, it is clear that Korea is in the initial stages of implementing its plan. Such structural challenges as rapid globalization and the economic ascendancy of China make mapping out Korea's economic future a difficult proposition. In retrospect, the past year has been an important period in that it allowed Korea to identify important challenges to be overcome.

Korea is now at a historical crossroads. The choices made about which course to take will be decisive in determining its future. A country's objectives and long-term vision must be clearly defined to bring about change in a positive direction. Having recognized the need for change, Korea has mapped its course. "Dynamic Korea: A Nation on the Move" outlines seven strategic tasks on the Korean policy agenda.

The past 40 years of economic development in Korea demonstrates its capacity for dynamic change. Korea has now set a new course that will capitalize on this inner dynamism to usher in a new era of change and opportunity.

Korea has taken the initiative by setting in motion changes that will bring prosperity to its citizens in the 21st century.



The past 40 years of economic development in Korea demonstrates its capacity for dynamic change. Korea has now set a new course that will capitalize on this inner dynamism to usher in a new era of change and opportunity

Seoul rejoins global top 10 with 30 Olympic medals

To Commemorate the Celebration of

REPUBLIC OF KOREA
" 4337th FOUNDATION DAY"
(October 03, 2004)

HANJIN

South Korea displayed an improvement in its overall sports power by ranking 9th in the medal standing with 9 gold, 12 silver and 9 bronze

ATHENS-The second and last group of South Korean Olympic athletes returned home, capping the 16-day games with 30 medals, three shy of the nation's Olympic record set in 1988.

South Korea displayed an improvement in its overall sports power by ranking 9th in the medal standing with 9 gold, 12 silver and 9 bronze.

Four years ago in Sydney, the nation ranked 12th, taking eight gold, 10 silver and 10 bronze. The 30 medals won in Athens was the nation's best performance since the Seoul Olympics in 1988, when 33 medals-12 gold, 10 silver and 11 bronze-were seized.

The South Korean squad failed in its attempt to win 13 gold in Athens but attained its goal of rejoining the league of the world's top 10 sports powers. Since its entry to the top 10 at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984, South Korea ranked fourth in the 1988 Seoul Olympics, seventh in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and 10th in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Notably, the 9 gold medals were divided evenly among nine events, brightening the outlook for future international competition. In 2000, the eight Olympic golds were taken in only four events, raising concerns over excessive dependence on some "strategic" events such as archery.

In particular, athletes in boxing, shooting, weightlifting, handball and table tennis gave outstanding performances, helping the nation win a record 12 silver medals. In boxing, for instance, nobody expected medals but Jo Seok-hwan and Kim Jung-joo won bronze in the featherweight and welterweight classes, respectively.

South Korea's "wonder child of ping pong" Ryu Seung-min beat his Chinese rivals to win the nation's first Olympic gold medal in table tennis in 16 years, while the duo of Kim Dong-moon and Ha Tae-kwon unexpectedly took the gold in men's doubles badminton.

The women's handball team and weightlifters Lee Bae-young and Jang Mi-ran were praised for tiding over public indifference at home to add three silver medals.

As expected, the archery and taekwondo athletes performed well, presenting five golds to the Korean team. In swimming, track and field and other basic events, however, Korean athletes once again experienced a wide gap with global standards.

"We are pleased to attain the goal of ranking as a global top 10 sports power," Shin Bark-jae, chief of the South Korean Olympic squad, said after the closing ceremony.

"The record number of silver medals displayed South Korea's potential in the next Olympics. In some events, we need to work harder in technology and strategies," he said, calling the Korean performance in Athens a "half-done" success.

Shin attached particular meaning to the diversification of medal-winning events and better-than-expected results in boxing, shooting, weightlifting, soccer and handball.

"After returning home, I will ask for more government support in creating semiprofessional teams in less-popular events. We have to learn lessons from strong Olympic performances by China and Japan," he said.

Regarding the controversy surrounding a scoring error that cost South Korean gymnast Yang Tae-young a gold medal, he said it would take more time than expected to resolve the problem. Shin said he, Yang and Yang's coach plan to go to Lausanne, Switzerland to discuss the scoring error with the International Olympic Committee. South Korea's Olympic delegation has already filed a petition with the Court of Arbitration for Sport over the issue.

The Athens Olympics also saw another inter-Korean joint march. During the opening and closing ceremonies, athletes and officials from South and North Korea entered the stadium under the same flag-a blue image of the Korean peninsula on a white background. The Koreas carried the "unification flag" during four previous international sporting events, including the Sydney Olympics in 2000. (Yonhap) Korea Now Magazine

MOON Dae-sung (left) of South Korea knocks out Greece's Alexandros Nikolaidis with a left-footed kick to the head in the first round of the men's taekwondo over-80kg event. Moon won the gold medal

Korean Companies Association of the Philippines
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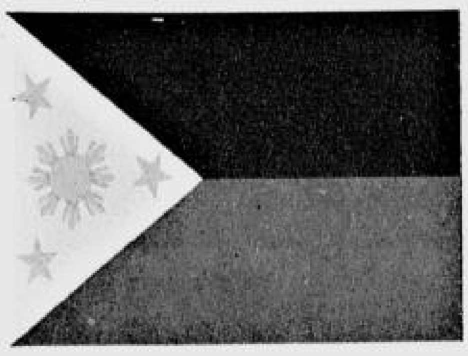
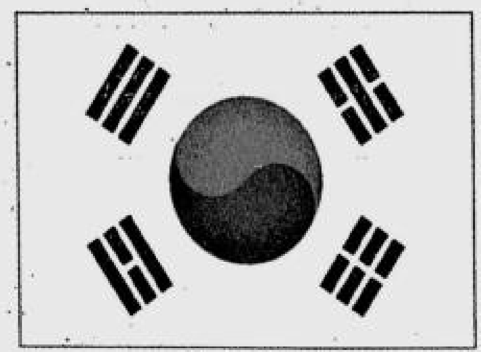


SAMSUNG CELEBRATES NATIONAL KOREAN DAY



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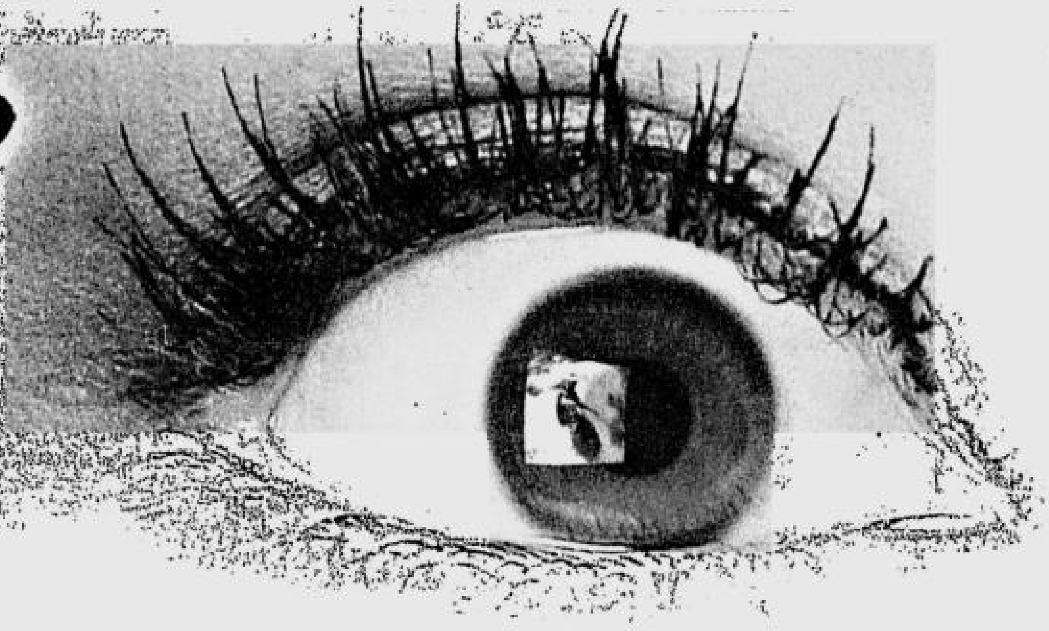

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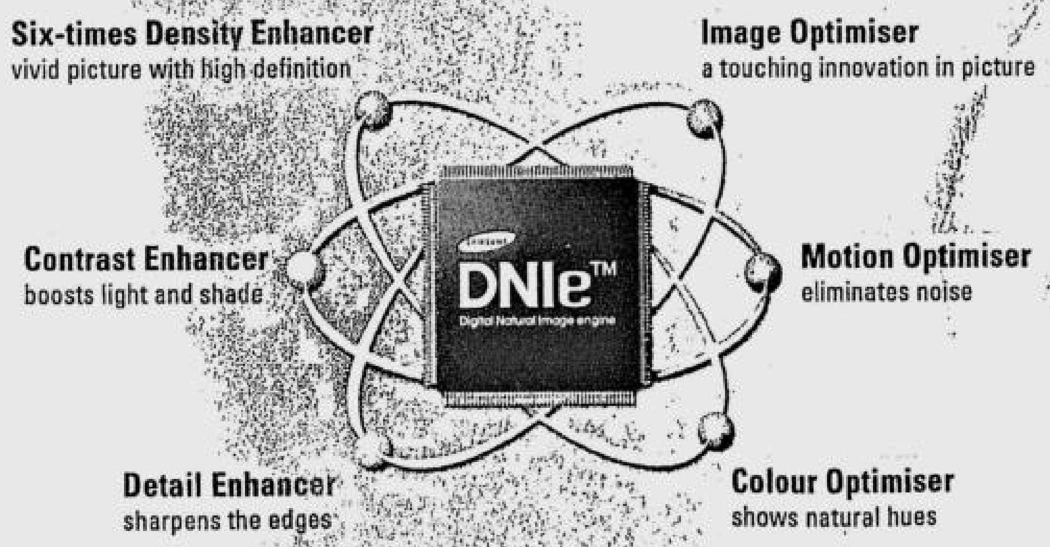

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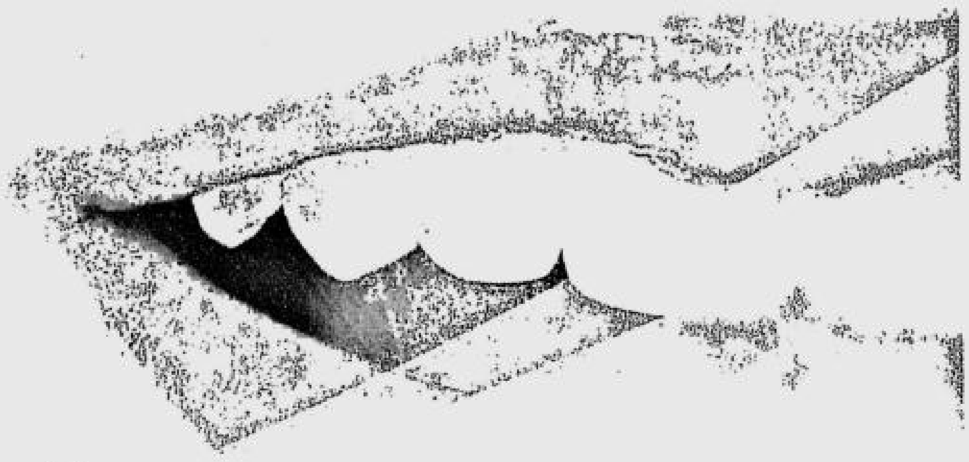

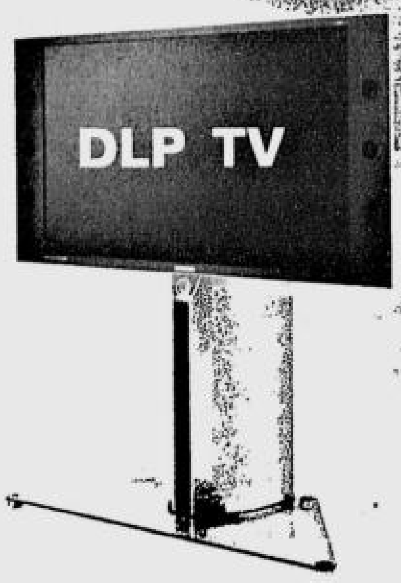

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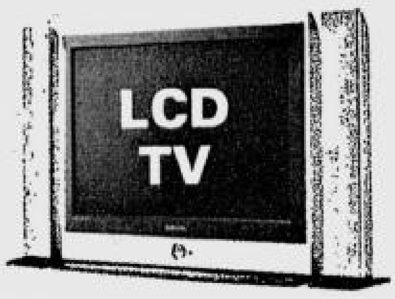

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People, Events & Products

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Editor Aries Espinosa

Globe introduces first prepaid tween-friendly mobile service

KEEPING up with youngsters is no mean feat. With the new youth-friendly service Globe Gizmo Prepaid, Globe creates a mobile world made just for tweens, while addressing every parent's need to stay connected with their growing children.

Globe Gizmo Prepaid is the first prepaid mobile service for children aged 7 to 12, which allows them to learn about the world, enjoy fun, cool downloads, while remaining in touch with their parents and other loved ones. Parents can avail of the Globe Gizmo Prepaid SIM for only P150; they may also choose from an assortment of Globe Gizmo Prepaid phone kits starting at the low price of P2,490. Globe Gizmo Prepaid puts a tween twist on the convenient and affordable prepaid service, making it the ideal mobile companion for today's youngsters.

The Globe Gizmo Prepaid SIM is jampacked with services that both parents and children will surely appreciate, such as special connectivity features available to both Globe Gizmo Prepaid subscribers and their parents, who may be on Globe Prepaid or G Plan. Quick Text allows Globe Gizmo Prepaid subscribers to instantly send special messages to their parents by simply dialing a prescribed code, while Emergency Text allows children to text their parents when they run out load; Globe Gizmo Prepaid subscribers are allotted one emergency text per day. Parents, on the other hand, automatically receive text alerts when their child is running out of load with the Low Load Alert service. They may also use their Globe Handyphone to inquire about their child's remaining balance, anytime, anywhere. Connecting with their children through Globe Gizmo Prepaid will definitely ease any busy parent's concerns, as well as strengthen the bond they share as a family.

Youngsters will also look forward to Globe Gizmo Prepaid's enriching and entertaining features. Learning tools and exclusive educational downloads from Discovery Channel, Animal Planet and Discovery Travel and Adventure gives youngsters a chance to discover new things and explore the world in the comfort and safety of their own home, while giving them a leg up on schoolwork. Trendy tweens can also download special logos, wallpapers and games featuring popular characters from Bratz, Looney Tunes, Disney and other favorite anime to keep the fun going all day long!

To activate all the special Globe Gizmo Prepaid services, parents must register their child's Globe Gizmo Prepaid number by sending "REG" to 2811. To complete the registration, the parent must reply to the message prompt with "<PARENT FULL NAME>/<PASSWORD>/<CHILD Globe Gizmo Prepaid#>/<CHILD'S NICKNAME>/<CHILD'S BIRTHDAY: MM-DD-YYYY>." Each parent can register up to three children. All Globe Gizmo Prepaid transactions are charged the same rates as regular Globe Prepaid services.

Families who are interested in availing of Globe Gizmo Prepaid's fun and practical services may drop by the special Globe Gizmo Prepaid booth at the ground floor of the Shangri-la Plaza from Oct. 1 to 3. Globe Gizmo Prepaid's dedicated customer service representatives will be on hand to answer any inquiries, or assist them as they experience the benefits of being on Globe Gizmo Prepaid. A picture-perfect surprise also awaits new subscribers.

AUTOMATIC CENTRE OPENS STORE IN GREENBELT 1

Automatic Centre continues its pioneering spirit as it opens a new and exciting concept store in Greenbelt 1. The store hosts the largest collection of Plasma and LCD TV's in the country today. Leading the store opening were (from left): Samie Lim, president, Automatic Centre; Angelo Valenton, GM, Philips Consumer Electronics; Jeff Hong, president, LG Phils; Mitsunobu Hattori, president and GM, Sharp Phils; Benito Lim, chair and CEO, Automatic Centre; Rowena Tomeldan, VP-operations, commercial center group, Ayala Land; Toshinori Yokokawa, president, JVC Phils; Rodolfo Perez, president, Panasonic Sales Phils; Irene Lim-Chua, SEVP, Automatic Centre.

CARTOON NETWORK
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

OVALTINE, CARTOON NETWORK CONTRACT SIGNING

An avid advocate of children's balanced mind and body development, Associated British Foods, the maker and distributor of Ovaltine recently inked a contract with Cartoon Network for Ovaltine Power to co-present the Cartoon Network Awards of Excellence, an awards program for Filipino boys and girls aged 10 to 16 yrs. old from all over Metro Manila. Under this program, awards will be given to three young girls and three young boys who have manifested excellence in leadership, arts and sports. Shown in photo are from left : Luigi Nunez, executive vice president of Far East Media; Marco Antonio Torres, AB Foods product manager; Regina P. Pineda, AB Foods marketing manager; Arbie Zalamea, AB Foods assistant product manager and Jek Nunez, sales director of Far East Media. Standing are Rowie Garcia, media group head; Jean Tanseco, media director and Cathy Pacia, media planner.

Fallin' for Alicia Keys

WHEN news about Alicia Keys' coming to Manila hit the headlines, jaws dropped, and superlatives started flying like shuttle caps all over the place. Industry movers, singers, manager and producers, even DJ's had only words of worship and genuine respect for this great artist.

So, what better way to let you know, what people think of Alicia Keys, than printing their own words and give you a peek into The Diary of Alicia Keys:

Kyla (singer) - "Alicia Keys is a great singer, performer and songwriter. A genius! She's also very beautiful. She's got it all!"

Rod Nepumoceno (director for corporate affairs and communications, MTV Phils) - "In this day and age of hip-hop, trance and raunchy rock, I think Alicia Keys is a breath of fresh air. Her voice is so smooth and soothing; it's a gentle reminder to all of us that music was invented primarily for the ears and not for the hips."

Cindy Kurleto (VJ - MTV Philippines) - 'Love her music, love her style - old and new."

Chico Garcia (DJ, RX 93.1 - The Morning Rush) - "If Stevie Wonder was a gorgeous sexy woman, she would be Alicia Keys."

Luke Mejares (singer) - "Alicia Keys is the sugar and spice that girls are made of. Not only is this lady hot, she can play and sing as well! Her songwriting skills are exceptional as well. When you hear the name Alicia Keys, you just know that you'll be hearing a good, if not a great song!"

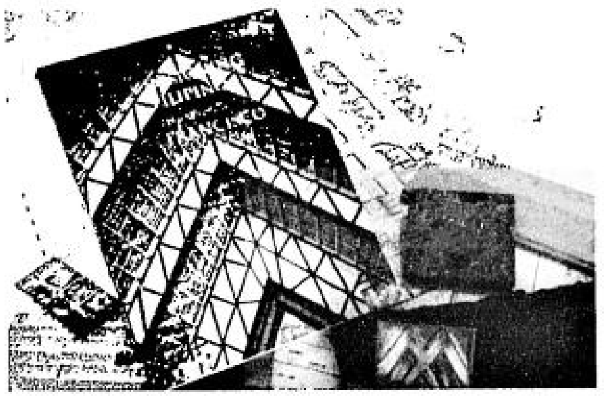
the diary of alicia keys

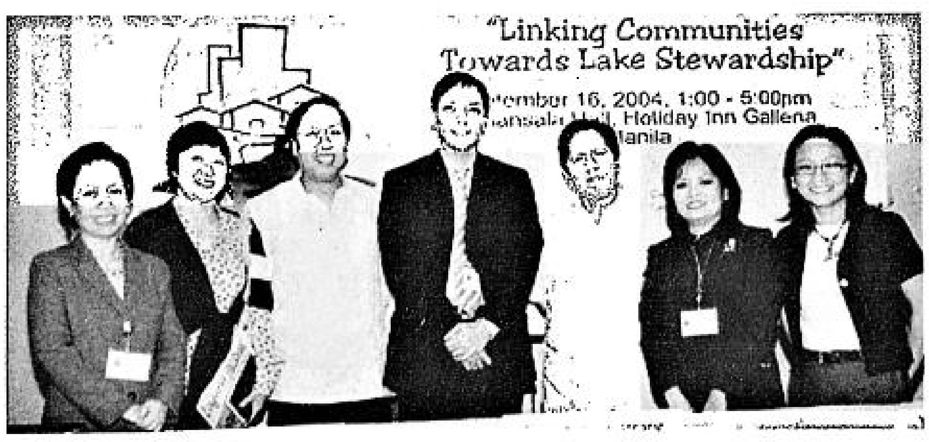
Francis Magalona (rapper/producer) - "Alicia Keys is blessed with beauty and talent. Plus, she takes it a notch higher because she writes her own songs and plays it too."

The Alicia Keys World Tour at the Araneta Coliseum, Oct. 9, also features special opening numbers by Luke Mejares and R&B Princess Kyla. It is presented by Nokia "Connecting People", Smart Gold, Tommy Hilfiger watches in association with Information Gateway, MTV Tours Presents, Petron Blaze, No Curfew watch stores "Take Your Time" and in participation of Addict Mobile, Skechers, Smart Buddy and Smart Money. For inquiries call Ticketnet at 911-5555 or visit www.ticketnet.com.ph.

DESIGNING FILIPINO RECEIVES AWARD

The Manila Critics Circle, a non-profit, non-stock organization of professional literacy critics and newspaper columnists awarded the Best on Art and Alfonso T. Ongpin Award to the book - Designing Filipino: The Architecture of Francisco Mañosa by Eric Caruncho/Tukod Foundation Inc during the 25th Manila Int'l Book Fair held at the World Trade Center last Aug. 14. The book is available at the National Bookstore and Power Books.

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3RD LAGUNA DE BAY STAKEHOLDERS' MEET

The Conservation of Laguna de Bay's Environment and Resources (Clear) recently met a well represented group of stakeholders from the local communities, fisher folks, youth, academe, non-government organizations, local government officials and various government agencies to heighten their commitment in conserving the Laguna de Bay. Photo shows (from left), SPCW president Amy Leciones, Federation of River Rehabilitation and Protection Councils president Lina Tanjuatco, Unilever general manager for corporate development Chito Macapagal, LLDA general manager Casimiro Ynares III, DENR Undersecretary Demetrio Ignacio, head of research and development division of the LLDA Lennie Santos-Borja and Unilever senior corporate relations manager Jika Dalupan.

Product FILES

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JOLLIBEE reinvents the top and launches it into orbit with the Jollibee Space Tops in four colorful and unique toys that come with every purchase of a Jollibee Kids Meal. There's Jollibee in his Spin Rocket. Press the wind up button to eject the capsule to launch the propeller. Then there's Hetty in her Cosmic Chopper. Insert the elongated key and pull it back to eject its propeller to set it in motion. Spin to heavenly heights the celestial trio of Twirlie, Mr Yum and Champ with the Spiro Tops. Insert all three launchers then twist and release for a colorful spinning action. Finally, there's the Popo Twister Tower. It has three pods to set your propellers in colorful motion. You can even launch all 9 flyers simultaneously by puling the trigger. Let your child's imagination soar. Get the Jollibee Space Tops when you order any Jollibee Kids Meal until Oct. 13.

Bits Clips

Revillas feted

ON THE occasion of the 209th anniversary celebration of the founding of Imus, Cavite today, former Senator Ramon Revilla Sr and his son Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr will be honored by the Municipal Government of Imus, and the Imus Municipal Tourism Council with the presentation of the General Licerio Topacio Outstanding Awards in recognition of their outstanding accomplishments most notable of which are their distinguished services to the government. The award is named after the town's foremost revolutionary hero during the Philippine Revolution of 1898.

Oishi opens new store

OISHI has opened a store for all its tasty goodies so you can try out its new snacks or buy bags and bags of old favorites. Located in San Antonio Village in Makati (near Makati Fire Station), relax for a bit with a hot cup of Lavazza coffee (only P20) or a chilled glass of Sunday Mango Drink while reading the latest news from the Philippine Daily Inquirer when you're in the area. Load up for out of town trips parties and of course, for your personal stash (Chocolate Pillows, Ridges Natural Potato Chips, Oishi Prawn Crackers Hot and Spicy galore). Oishimart is located at 7464 Bagtikan St., San Antonio Village, Makati City with tel. no. 897-0730.

41st Division heroes reunion

THE 41ST Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Vicente Lim, was among the staunchest defenders of the Philippines' last stand in Bataan. They fought to the death for the love of God, country and fellowmen. To commemorate the valor demonstrated by the 41st Infantry Division and to bring their deeds to the consciousness of the youth, the General Lim's Division of Bataan Inc (41st Infantry Division Foundation) will host a grand reunion today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the 41st shrine in Tagaytay City, Cavite directly across the Taal Vista Lodge on Km. 58. Family members at the reunion will be provided with paper on which to rub inscriptions of their relative's name as a keepsake. On the shrine's pillars are inscribed all 8,000 names of the division's hero-combatants. Games and contests will be held for the youngsters together with the whole-day tiangge for all ages.

Basic photography course

THE FEDERATION of Philippine Photographers Foundation (FPPF) in coordination with YKL Trading & Development and the Intramuros Administration will again offer a basic photo course starting today. This is part of a series of photo courses designed for beginners and professionals. The 4-Sunday basic photo course is for beginners. Then they can take the advance course. It is on a first-come-first-serve basis. Contact FPPF at 843-5341, 813-7420 and look for Lerma Aquino.

ENGLISH CHAMP TALKS AT 'A TRIBUTE TO TEACHERS'

Patricia Evangelista, recent winner of the English Speaking Union's International Public Speaking Competition held in London, England recently, shared her insights and experiences with 6,000 teachers during 'A Tribute to Teachers.' Evangelista's testimonial was a fitting tribute to teachers for their critical role in inspiring and guiding young Filipinos towards a path to excellence.

PHOTO BY RANDY HORMILLOSA

MONGOLIAN STOP OPENING

Shown during the opening of Mongolian Stop are Rep. Dudut Jaworski and Mikee Cojuanco-Jaworski. They are joined by Myra Bajar president and CEO of MGM Advertising; Mercedes Francisco, owner; Doroty Tan and June Pineda.

JCB CARD PROMOTES PHILIPPINE TOUR SPOTS

JCB International Co Ltd, one of the world's top credit cards, recently signed a contract with Super Sonic Travel Corporation for the JCB Trip for Five Travel promotion. Top prizes include trips for groups of five to Boracay and Subic. Shown in photo (from left) are Emiliano Garhitorena (SSTC GM), Anthony Que (SSTC president), Shunichi Hatano (JCB chief representative to the Philippines) and Judith Gocong (JCB marketing manager).

Prudentialife No. 1 in July 2004

CONSOLIDATED sales figures from the Securities and Exchange Commissions (SEC) shows Prudentialife Plans Inc as the number 1 Pre-Need company for July 2004. Sales for the month grew by 100 percent to P1.0 billion compared to P513 million of the previous month. Total sales from January to July 2004 increased by 28 percent to P3.99 billion compared to P3.11 billion for the same period last year. Prudentialife president, Jose Alberto T. Alba, expressed hopes that 2004 will be a banner year for Prudentialife with sales increasing by more than 30 percent compared to last year. Alba said that the remarkable sales performance of the company is due to the introduction of new products namely the Pension Wealth Builder and Education PowerED Persona. Sales also continued to increase for the existing pre-need plans namely the Flexi Life Plan and Pension Fund Series.

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2004
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JOB*Market* is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
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Get a chance to win a MOTOROLA E398 — the only surround sound mobile phone in the Philippines — in the monthly draws!

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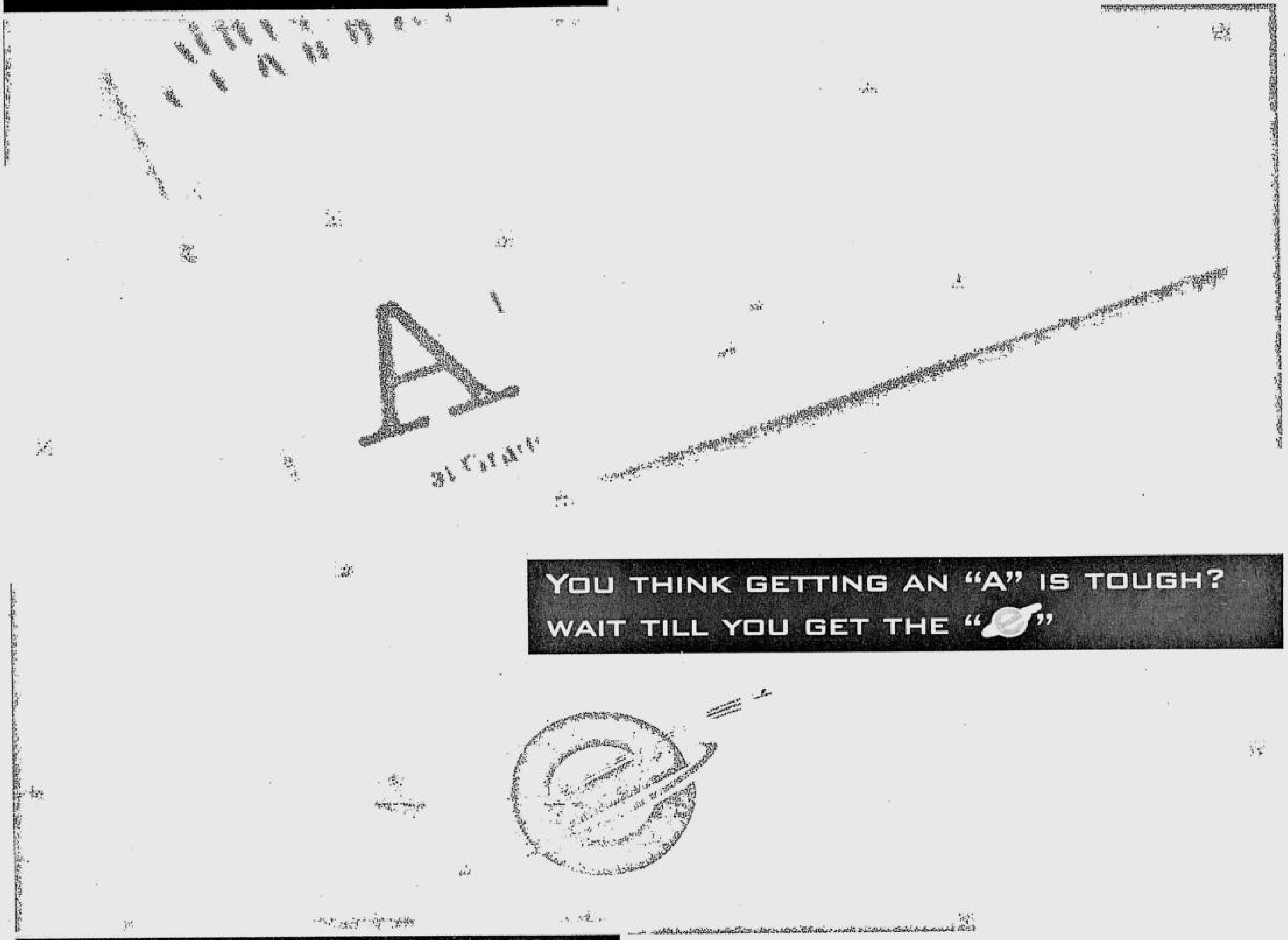
A
YOU THINK GETTING AN "A" IS TOUGH?
WAIT TILL YOU GET THE "e"

REMEMBER WHAT YOU HAD TO GO THROUGH TO GET AN "A"? WELL, GETTING THE "e" IS LIKE THAT. ONLY TOUGHER.

The eTelecare challenge is not easy. But once you have earned the mark you are on your way to a great career with excellent growth opportunities. Its comprehensive training and mentoring programs will let you reach your full potential in a fun and casual work atmosphere. And the compensation and benefits package is unrivalled in the industry.

Best of all, you get to work with the industry's best. This experience is simply incomparable.

Perhaps it's the training or team culture or the knowledge that you work for the world's most awarded call center. But whatever it is, you'll get that feeling, you'll get that high when you have earned the e mark.

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Leader and Innovator in Compensation & Benefits
Truly a Great Place to Work

MANILA CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

FINANCE
- Accounting Manager
- Financial Analyst

IT
- Senior Application Developer
- Business Analyst
- Telecoms Specialist
- Data Network Specialist
- Junior Helpdesk Associate

CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCE
- Compensation & Benefits Manager
- Recruiting Specialists

OPERATIONS
- Operations Managers
- Shift Managers
- Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Associates
- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Service Associates
- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Multilingual Representatives
- Resource Specialist

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Executive Assistant to the VP

CORPORATE FOUNDATION TRAINING
- Sales Trainer

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
- Sr. OD Officer
  (Performance Management & Career Development)
- Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates / Specialists

PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS
- Procurement Assistant

SALES AND MARKETING
- Business Development Manager
- Business Development Officer

CORPORATE SECURITY OFFICE
- Corporate Security Officer
- Business Continuity Management Officer

CEBU CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

FINANCE
- Finance/Accounting Staff
- Administrative Staff
- Purchasing Officer
- Facilities Officer

HUMAN RESOURCE
- HR Manager
- Recruiting Team Leader
- Recruiting Officers
- Recruiting Specialists
- Payroll Specialist
- C&B Specialist

OPERATIONS
- Operations Managers
- Shift Managers
- Team Leaders
  (Sales, Tech Support & Order Fulfillment)
- Technical Support Representatives
- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Order Fulfillment Specialists
- Customer Service Associates
- Quality Assurance Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Associates

IT
- IT Manager
- Telecoms Specialist
- Computer System Specialist

ORGANIZATIONAL DEV'T
- Performance Management System Officers
- Career Development Officers
- Sr. Behavioral Trainers
- Sr. Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates

CORPORATE FOUNDATION TRAINING
- Training Manager
- Speech Trainer

We offer a relocation package to those willing to be re-assigned from Manila to Cebu and vice-versa.

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Four Easy Ways To Earn the e Mark:

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  Manila: (02) 580-6530
  Cebu: (032) 415-8061 to 66
- **Visit** us for pre-employment screening —
  Eastwood Office: 20/F CyberOne Building,
  Eastwood City Bagumbayan,
  Quezon City
  Cebu Office: U-308 Keppel Building
  Samar Loop, Cebu City
- **E-mail** your resume to —
  Manila: recruiting@etelecare.com
  Cebu: ceburecruiting@etelecare.com
  or www.etelecare.com
- **Join** our Job Fair —
  Oct 7: Mega Trade Hall, Level 5
  10am-9pm

SM

If you want your career to go places, join our branch and get ready to reach the top of the corporate ladder.

FOR DELGADO

SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology or any 4-year Management course; with intensive experience in personnel management; must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization

TREASURY MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 2 years supervisory experience in accounting, funds management or treasury functions; familiar with banking operations & Central Bank procedures

ACCOUNTING MANAGER / OFFICER

must be a Certified Public Accountant; female, not over 35 years old; with 2 to 5 years of managerial experience in all accounting operations; has the ability to work in a fast paced environment; with strong computer skills and skills to oversee and manage monthly and quarterly budget and vacancies analysis

ADVERTISING & PROMOTION COORDINATOR

graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in advertising; must be creative and with good fashion sense; strong organization and communication skills; must be computer literate

ENGINEER

*** Mechanical * Civil * Electrical**
not over 30 years old; preferably licensed; with 1 year work experience in construction projects or mall operations

DESIGN OFFICER

not over 28 years old; graduate of Architecture; preferably licensed; knowledgeable in AutoCADD application; with 1 year work experience in site inspection and supervision; proficient in drafting, designing and estimates

DISPLAY OFFICER

not over 32 years old; graduate of Fine Arts, or any 4-year related course; with 1 year experience in visual merchandising and window display in a retail business; proficient in Adobe Photoshop, Coreldraw, PrintShop

TRAINING OFFICER / TRAINER

not over 32 years old; graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course; with 2 years related work experience; knowledgeable in conducting training needs analysis, designing, implementing and evaluating of training programs and activities related to behavior and skill modification of employees

NURSE

not over 32 years old; must be a Registered Nurse; with 2 years experience in industrial or hospital setup; able to establish rapport and deal with all levels of the organization; willing to work on shift schedules or extended hours

COMPUTER OPERATOR / TECHNICIAN

not over 28 years old; graduate of Computer Science / Engineering; with 1 to 2 years experience in repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash registers

OFFICE ASSISTANT

(Human Resources * Accounting * Treasury * Customer Service)
not over 25 years old; graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Communication Arts, Business Management, Accountancy, Computer Science or any 4-year business course; Personable, fast learner and willing to work on extended hours

OPERATIONS GROUP

BRANCH OPERATIONS MANAGER

has a degree in Business Management, Marketing or any related course; with 3 to 5 years relevant experience in Management or Marketing in a senior capacity; with outstanding leadership, interpersonal and team-building skills; able to conceptualize and implement attainable sales and Marketing Strategies; has a proven track record in sales and service

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

not over 35 years old; graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering; with 2 years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity; able to lead a group, prioritize work load, and meet deadlines

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4 year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in sales and marketing, able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service; with pleasing personality

SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity; responsible for planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.

COUNTER & CHECKING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in cashiering operations, familiar with credit card and cash transactions; responsible for over-all supervision of personnel in the department

WAREHOUSE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business; able to lead and motivate staff, and foster a team working environment

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course; male, must be 5'5 1/2" & female, 5'2" in height; with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel; with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior; with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned to provincial branches and work on extended hours

Candidates for the position should have the following competencies:

- ✓ excellent communication skills (both verbal and written form)
- ✓ can relate well with all levels of the organization
- ✓ proficient in computer software applications
- ✓ team player, goal oriented and able to work well under pressure
- ✓ willing to grow with the organization
- ✓ willing to work on weekends and holidays

[illegible] parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. or send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

SM Delgado
SM Department Store
2nd floor, ICAG Building
Valeria Street, Iloilo City

Visit our Website : www.sm-shoemart.com
E-mail : Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

[illegible] resumé, 1 pc. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS number / SSS Employment History printout and photocopy and original of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

P. J. LHUILLIER

GROUP OF COMPANIES

The P.J. Lhuillier Group of Companies, a dynamic business company engaged in financial services, retail and trade, and sports recreation is inviting qualified and competent candidates to fill in key positions in the organization.

General Manager for Oceanic 1911 Gifts & Jewelry

- Preferably with a Masters Degree in Business Administration
- At least five (5) years work experience in the field of sales and marketing and/or customer service in a managerial capacity
- Responsible in obtaining optimum efficiency of operations and attaining revenue and profit targets
- Advance knowledge of all functional areas of a business
- Strong sales and marketing orientation
- Can formulate and implement business plans, marketing and operating strategies
- With financial analysis skills
- Excellent customer relations skills

Finance Affiliates Division Manager

- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least seven (7) years experience, preferably in general accounting
- With knowledge in tax laws

Property Manager (Luzon and Mindanao)

- 25-35 years old
- Graduate of Electrical, Mechanical, Civil Engineer and Architecture
- Preferably with professional license in the field
- With at least three (3) years extensive work experience in the field of property management and development.
- With strong leadership skills, goal and results- oriented, proactive, team player
- Analytical, with excellent judgment and decision – making skills

Building Administrator (NCR and Mindanao)

- 25-35 years old
- Graduate of Electrical, Mechanical, Civil Engineer, Architecture, or Business courses
- Preferably with professional license in Electrical or Civil Engineering or Architecture
- With at least three (3) years real estate work experience in sales, property/ building administration
- With strong leadership skills, goals and result-oriented
- Proactive and good critical thinker

Financial Reporting Compliance Supervisor

- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least three (3) years experience in the field of corporate taxation/tax accounting
- In-depth knowledge of tax laws and BSP/SEC/DTI regulations

Accounting Supervisor

- 21-28 years old
- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least two (2) or three (3) years experience in the related field
- Good supervisory and interpersonal skills
- Above average analytical skills
- Computer literate

Security Services Inspector (Cebu and Manila)

- 25-35 years old, preferably male
- Graduate of B.S. Criminology
- Preferably five (5) years work experience in a security industry
- Preferably with driver's license
- Computer literate

Quality Process Coordinator

- Graduate of Economics, Communication Research, Math, Statistics or Business Management
- Preferably with related work experience in data analysis and customer service standards monitoring
- Good communication skills and presentation skills

Media Relations Specialist

- 24-26 years old
- Graduate of Communication Arts (Broadcast/ Journalism/ Public Relations/ Advertising/Marketing and Creative Writing/ English)
- With at least two (2) years work experience in similar capacity (PR or corporate communications)
- Team player, hardworking, results-oriented and has a sense of urgency

Auditor (Manila, Cebu, Davao)

- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- Preferably a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

Information Technology Staff (Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao)

- 22-28 years old
- Graduate of four (4)-year course, preferably Computer Science, Computer Programming or Engineering
- At least one (1) year work experience in related field
- Advanced computer literacy
- With knowledge in PC hardware/ software troubleshooting & dial-up networking

Support Services Coordinator

- Preferably Female
- Graduate of any four (4) year college course
- With at least one (1)- two (2) years work experience in Advertising, Promotions or Business Development
- Has strong marketing and negotiation skills

Accounting Staff

- 21-28 years old
- Graduate of BS. Accountancy
- With or without work experience
- Hardworking and willing to work overtime

Administrative Assistant

- 21-28 years old, preferably female
- Graduate of any four (4)-year college course
- One (1) to two (2) years work experience as a Secretary or Administrative Assistant
- Good interpersonal skills
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Flexible and reliable
- Systematic and has good organizing skills
- Open for National Capital Region, Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao

Sales Associates for Oceanic

- 22-25 years old
- Graduate of any four (4)- year course
- Preferably with experience in retail sales or merchandising
- At least 5'3 in height
- With pleasing personality
- Good communication skills
- Computer literate

Insurance Coordinator

- 25-35 years old
- Graduate of any four (4)-year business course
- At least two (2) years experience in non-life insurance company or intermediary
- Computer literate
- Hardworking, patient and sales-oriented
- Preferably residing in neighboring areas of Angeles City, Pampanga

Branch (Pawnshop) Personnel

- 21-27 years old
- Graduate of any four (4)-year business course or any four (4)-year course with at least 6 units in Management
- With or without work experience
- With pleasing personality and of good moral character
- Computer literate
- Open for NCR, Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao

Area Driver/Messenger

- At least college level or graduate of a vocational course
- Punctual, dependable and trustworthy
- Must be holder of a professional driver's license
- Has basic skills in vehicle troubleshooting
- Open for NCR, Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao

Interested individuals may send or handcarry their resumé, recent 2X2 photo, letter of application and photocopy of Transcript of Records to:

MANPOWER PLANNING AND RECRUITMENT SECTION
3F PJL Corporate Centre, 1782 Nicanor Garcia St. cor.
Candelaria Sts., Bel-Air, Makati City 1200

You may also email your applications to mpr_podd@pjlhuillier.com.

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globalstride

Globalstride's vision is to be the leading customer care provider in the world. With superior CRM services and a unique offshore value proposition, Globalstride offers an excellent outsourcing solution that allows companies to exceed the demands of their customers without squeezing their margins. We help improve our clients customer service operations by designing a custom outsourcing program and shifting their customer service operations to a more cost effective offshore location in the Philippines. The result is better customer satisfaction at rates that are more affordable than doing the same type of service in-house.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

CREDIT AND COLLECTIONS OFFICER (CCO)

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS:

- Maintain Accounts Receivable, general and subsidiary records
- Prepare aging and other analyses for management
- Establish and maintain credit evaluation system
- Ensure adherence to credit and collection policies
- Prepare and transmit Statement of Accounts to clients
- Coordinate with internal Client Services Department for follow-up with clients

JOB MUST:

- Accounting or Business Graduate
- At least 5 years experience in credit and collection, internal or external audit, with at least 2 years supervisory experience.
- Above Average communication skills (written and oral)
- Detail-oriented and pro-active
- Experience in both manual and automated financial systems is a plus

GOVERNANCE OFFICER / FINANCIAL ANALYST

JOB FUNCTIONS:

- Governance – Assist the CFO and the Excom in ensuring that the group's governance documents are complete and up-to-date in every respect.
- Financial Analyst – Prepare, under the direction of the CFO and/or CEO, regular financial reports as well as special reports and projects that may be required by senior management, Excom or the Board.
- Investor Relations – Coordinate Excom and Board meetings; liaise with the representatives or key persons of current and prospective investors groups; manage requests for information from all external parties.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Preferably a CPA or business graduate.
- At least three (3) years immediate work experience either as Financial Analyst, Bank Lending Officer / Investment Banking Associate, Corporate Governance Staff or Auditor (Internal or External).

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensure proper recording of telecom cost, fixed assets and related depreciation.
- Monitor aging of account receivable.
- Prepare bank reconciliation.
- Prepare weekly cash forecast and telegraphic / wire fund transfers.
- Ensure compliance with statutory requirements particularly BIR and PEZA.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Accounting Graduate.
- At least three (3) experience handling general accounting and fund management. Hands-on experience on Great Plains is an advantage

You can also email us at jobs@globalstride.com.
29th Floor IBM Plaza Building, Eastwood City Cyberpark Libis, Quezon City 1100; Tel. 911-8866 / Fax. 911-8854

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

MINING ENGINEER

He must have at least 5 years experience in a coal mine, preferably in a managerial position.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

He must have at least 5 years experience in an enterprise engage in the manufacture of liquor, brewery or juice drinks, preferably in a managerial position.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

He must have adequate experience in planning, design, construction, fabrication, and installation of the machineries for an industrial plant.

Applicants must be willing to be assigned to our overseas project.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records to:

The Human Resources Division
P.O. Box 1477 or send email to hrdpgho@info.com.ph

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We advance the quality of life of individuals and organizations by delivering the SOLUTIONS to their communications-based needs. We provide quality and personalized service that exceeds our customers' needs and expectations.We are driven by a culture of excellence and innovation, enabled by best-in-market talent and supérior operating effectiveness and flexibility.

Best Telecommunications company in the Philippines by Consumer's Choice & Dangal ng Pilipinas Annual Awards (January 2004)

Awarded 4th Place in the 2003 Far Eastern Economic Review 200: Asia's Leading Companies, Philippines (December 2003)

Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) Employer of the Year (2000)

CADET ENGINEER

- Fresh Graduates to One Year work experience

ENGINEER BAND A

- Fresh Graduates to Two years work experience

ENGINEER BAND B

- Supervisory Level 3 to 5 years work experience

ENGINEER BAND C

- Managerial Level 5 and above years work experience

QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduate of B.S. Electronics Communications Engineering
- Graduate of B.S. Civil Engineering
- Graduate of B.S. Electrical Engineering
- Graduate of B.S. Mechanical Engineering
- Willing to work in any location (NCR, Visayas, Mindanao)
- With Background in Telecom Industry (Advantage)
- With knowledge in Telecom System application
- Proficient in MS office (MS Office, CAD) and other computer languages and applications.
- Leadership Qualities
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Good Interpersonal skills
- Willing to work on a shifting schedule
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

FRAUD AND RISK SPECIALISTS

- Candidates must possess at least a Bachelor's/college degree in Business Studies/Administration/ Management, Finance/Accountancy/ Banking,Electronics and Communications, Psychology and Behavioral Science
- Preferably with working experience and/or knowledge in Telecommunication Fraud/Risk Management, Revenue,Quality assurance/Network/Process/System Quality Control
- Understanding of Account Management workflow (subscription,provisioning,billing and credit, complaints handling, audit and legal matters)
- With high level of proficiency in computer application, knowledge in programming is an advantage
- Good Mathematical knowledge and analytical ability to manipulate and interpret statistics/information
- Ability for data research, with logical thought process and diagnostics/ methodical actions
- Applicants must be willing to work in Mandaluyong.
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT / ACCOUNTANT

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's degree in Accountancy
- Preferably experienced employees specializing in Finance - Audit / Budget/Financial Analysis
- Certified Public Accountant
- With experience in review of accounting systems, processes and internal controls, preparation of bank reconciliation, financial reports, cash flows and general accounting reports, budget preparation and financial reviews, audit and inventory management, bills processing and credit and collection
- Proficient in MS Office applications
- Knowledge in SAP is an advantage
- Strong analytic, communication and interpersonal skills
- Willing to extend working hours if necessary
- Self-motivated, diligent, results-oriented
- Willing to start immediately
- For Sr. Accountants, minimum of 3 years work experience, preferably from a Telecom company or from one of the leading Auditing Firms; for Accountants, at least one year related working experience
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

CREDIT SPECIALISTS

- Must possess a Bachelor's degree in Accountancy
- Preferably a Certified Public Accountant
- With at least 3 years of work experience preferably in a telecom or service related company
- With experience in account analysis, compliance checking, bill monitoring and documentation
- Exceptional analytic, presentation and interpersonal skills
- Proficient in Microsoft office application
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

SR. MARKETING MANAGER (South Luzon)

- At least 3 years of working experience in the related field is required
- Must have experience in handling events
- Possess good negotiation skills
- Ability to handle stress
- Flexible
- Well developed in planning and organization with keen attention to details.
- Willing to work long hours
- Applicants must be residing in the area
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizen.

SR. MARKETING MANAGER (Central Luzon)

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Sales & Marketing or equivalent
- At least 3 year(s) of working experience in the related field is required for this position
- **With strong background or seasoned in events sponsorship or handling events**
- Possesses good negotiation skills
- Ability to handle stress
- Flexible
- Well-developed in planning and organization with keen attention to details
- Willing to work long hours
- Applicants must be willing to work or residing in Pampanga, Tarlac, Cabanatuan, Olongapo, Bataan and Bulacan
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

SR. SPECIALISTS- Regional Corporate Marketing (North/South Luzon)

- At least 3 years of working experience in the related field is required
- Must have experience in handling events
- Possess good negotiation skills
- Ability to handle stress
- Flexible
- Well developed in planning and organization with keen attention to details.
- Willing to work long hours
- Applicants must be residing in the area
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

CUSTOMER SERVICE PERSONNEL

- Graduate of any 4 year course
- Good Communication Skills
- Willing to work on a shifting schedule
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Applicants should be Filipino Citizens.

Interested parties who meet the above requirements
may apply personally.
Kindly bring your resume,
2x2 picture, photocopy of transcript of records.
Our recruitment team will be in the following locations:

SOUTH:
Days Hotel, Pastor Village, Pallocan West, Batangas City
October 4 to 6, 2004 From 8am to 5pm

NORTH:
Central Park Hotel, Hacienda Luisita, San Miguel, Tarlac
October 7 to 9, 2004 From 8am to 5pm

SILVERGATE

The premier provider of electro-computer products and services for the interactive gaming and audio-visual entertainment market

PRODUCT SPECIALIST

- Female, Single, not over 25 years old
- Preferably a resident of Makati City or any nearby city
- College Graduate from a reputable college or university, preferably of any computer-related course such as Information Technology, ECE or Computer Engineering
- Proficient in English and Filipino, both oral and written
- At least one year experience in sales is an advantage
- Familiarity with latest software and hardware; knowledgeable in product displays
- Service-oriented, with pleasing personality & good interpersonal skills
- Aggressive, hardworking, flexible and can work long hours
- Can work under minimal supervision
- Willing to be assigned in a retail outlet

PC & ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

- Male, Single, not over 25 years old
- Preferably an engineering graduate specializing in computers and electronics
- Proficient in hardware/software troubleshooting, installation, & assembly
- Proficient in network configuration & cabling
- Knowledgeable in diagrams & fine soldering skill

CASHIER

- Female, Single, not over 25 years old
- With pleasing personality and good interpersonal skills
- At least college level, with exposure to sales
- Organized, focused, detail-oriented, and methodical
- Could work well under pressure, with minimal supervision
- Willing to work long hours

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Female, Single, not over 25 years old
- Candidate must be a graduate of BS Accountancy, preferably CPA
- Analytical and detail-oriented
- Could work on extended hours, with minimal supervision
- Proficient in business application software

Interested applicants may submit their resume with a recent 2x2 picture and other credentials at 219 Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan, M.M. or email to: silverg8@info.com.ph. For inquiries, call 723-8832 or 722-8053. Look for Mr. Marlon Ballelos/Mags Martin

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GHD
MANAGEMENT
ENGINEERING
ENVIRONMENT

GHD is an international consulting company providing leadership in management, engineering, the environmental, planning and architecture. We have 2300 staff and over 50 offices in Australia, Asia, Middle East, New Zealand and the Americas.

As an international company, GHD provides opportunity to train and gain work experience in our offices abroad.

Civil Design Engineer

- Minimum 5 years civil design experience in land development
- Experience using CAD based design packages

Roads Design Engineer/MX Operator

- Minimum 5 years design experience

Water/Wastewater Design Engineer

- Minimum 5 years water/wastewater design experience
- Experience in using modelling and design software packages

Senior Structural Engineer

- Minimum 10 years structural design experience
- Experience in American and British standards preferred

Senior MEP Design Engineer

- Minimum 10 years design experience in building services

Senior Mechanical Engineer

- Minimum 10 years experience in industrial plants, eg oil and gas, mining and/or food industries
- Experience in mechanical and process piping preferred

Senior Geologist

- Minimum 10 years experience
- Environmental site assessment experience preferred

Graduate Design Engineers

- Civil Engineering degree with excellent results
- Experience using AutoCAD preferred

Send your curriculum vitae covered by an application letter describing your suitability for the position on or before 15 October 2004 to:

GHD Pty. Ltd., 2/F 111 Paseo de Roxas St., Legaspi Village, Makati City or e-mail us at Josephine_Lubo@ghd.com.au

www.ghd.com.au

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- Experience in the same capacity an advantage
- Can conduct product demonstartion effectively and eloquently
- Pleasing personality, honest, flexible and with utmost initiative

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES/TELEMARKETERS

- Willing to be trained and establish their career in sales
- Must be flexible with utmost initiative
- ***FRESH GRADUATES ARE WELCOME***

• OTHER JOB OPENINGS •

Accounting Supervisor/Staffs   Sales/Network Engineers

Interview schedule will be from Mon. to Fri. 9:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Bring resume and recent photo.

HRM Dept.
American Technologies, Inc.
ATI Bldg. 455 Gen. Bautista St., San Juan, 1500, M. Mla.
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GAISANO

*Metro Market! Market! anchor store expansion of Metro Gaisano, Cebu-based retailer company will be opening **soon at Fort Bonifacio, Global City, Taguig.** If you want to be part of the growing Metro Gaisano family, we invite all driven and multi-skilled individuals, with good people skills to apply for the following positions:*

Credit Manager

- *Female, graduate of Business Management, Banking, Finance or its equivalent*
- *At least 5 years experience in credit and collection activities similar to the workings of the banking industry, financial sector and working knowledge of government policies in the monetary, credit and collection and payment areas*
- *Good interpersonal and networking skills demonstrated by her ability to develop strong and effective working relations with colleagues, government/finance and banking counterparts*
- *Possesses strong client and results orientation, high degree of adaptability and practicality*
- *Good communication skills; ability to think strategically*

Accountant

- *Female, graduate of Finance, Accounting or its equivalent, CPA*
- *At least 5 years experience in the same capacity with experience in all facets of Accounting*
- *Working knowledge of processing government requirements*
- *Good leadership and administrative skills*
- *Good communication skills; ability to think strategically*

Jr. Auditor/Auditor

- *Female, graduate of Finance or Accounting*
- *Experience in conducting financial, compliance and operational audit throughout the company*
- *Self-starter and demonstrates the ability to understand the internal audit process*

Supervising Electrical Engineer

- *Licensed Electrical Engineer; male, not more than 35 years old*
- *At least 2 years experience in the operation, preventive and corrective maintenance of*
  - *Low Voltage Switch Gears*
  - *Power Motors*
  - *Capacitor Banks*
  - *Escalator and Elevator Motors*
  - *Lighting System*
  - *Fire Alarm System*
  - *Generator Sets*
  - *Power Transformers*
  - *Motor Controllers*
  - *Telephone System*
  - *Background Music and Paging System*
- *Knowledge in planning and implementing energy management system*
- *Good planning, organizing and controlling skills*

Marketing Assistant

- *Female, graduate of Marketing or its equivalent*
- *Experience in corporate sales and/or account management preferably from the banking industry*
- *Sets goal for marketing environment and develops plans in relation to advertising, sales promotion, public relations and sales management*
- *Good communication and presentation skills*
- *Good human relation skills and has a strong determination to succeed*

Generator Set Operators

- *Graduate of Mechanical Engineering, related vocational course or its equivalent*
- *Male, not more than 35 years old*
- *At least 2 years experience in operating and performing preventive maintenance of diesel engine of a power generator rated at least 1000-KW (Cummins or equivalent)*
- *Must know how to perform change oil work, parallel generators manually, and read power meters*

Building Electricians

- *Registered Master Electrician, male, not more than 35 years old*
- *At least 2 years experience as an electrician in a commercial or industrial building*
- *Must know how to read power meters and perform preventive maintenance on the following:*
  - *Panel Boards*
  - *Lighting System*
  - *Dry-Type Transformers*
  - *Battery Operated Forklifts*
  - *Close Circuit Television (CCTV) System and Fire Alarm System*
  - *Motor Starters and Controllers*
  - *Telephone System (wire tracing)*
  - *Capacitor Banks*
  - *Background Music and Paging Equipment*

Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Technicians

- *Graduate of Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning course*
- *Male, not more than 35 years old*
- *At least 2 years experience in the operation, maintenance and repair of centralized refrigeration system (water cooled system), centralized air-conditioning system (chilled water and water-cooled system), AHU (York - 20 tons at least), FCU and ACCU*

Master Plumber

- *Graduate of Sanitary Engineering, related vocational course or its equivalent*
- *Male, not more than 35 years old*
- *At least 1 year experience in maintenance works for water supply piping system, sewage piping system, and drainage piping system*

Mechanic

- *Graduate of related vocational course*
- *Male, not more than 35 years old*
- *At least 1 year experience in maintenance works for kitchen equipment, bakery equipment, food court equipment, and other small mechanical equipment*

Interested parties may send their application letter, resume w/ recent 2x2 picture and photocopy of Transcript of Records to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
METRO GAISANO BUYING OFFICE
658 Palanca St., Quiapo, Metro Manila

Technistock®

Technistock (Philippines) Inc., a financial technology and information company, is looking for dynamic and highly motivated individuals to join its organizaton.

Software Engineers

- Graduate of Computer Science or other related courses
- Knowledgeable in ASP, JSP, PHP, HTML/CSS/Javascript
- Experience with relational databases (preferably MS SQL Server)
- Experience with C++, Delphi or Visual Basic not required but is an advantage
- Must possess good analytical and problem-solving skills
- Should be a team player but can work with minimum supervision
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Good moral character

Interested applicants may e-mail their resume at **hrd@technistock.com** or send to:

Human Resource Department
Unit 302 Taipan Place
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center
Pasig City

ELEMENTARY TEACHER

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CONTACT: The Principal
NAMEI Polytechnic Institute
123 A. Mabini St.
Mandaluyong City
Tel: 531-7328

New Service Company in Sucat, Parañaque is hiring for the following positions:

REFRIGERATION/AIRCON/COOKING EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN

- male
- 25 to 40 years old
- honest
- willing to work overtime and holidays
- preferably with driver's license
- with or without experience

Please apply in person any day starting at 2 pm at Unit D, 8102 Dr. A. Santos Avenue, Sucat, Parañaque and look for Mr. Mar Lalo.

Picture yourself ... or better yet ... in their shoes in their headsets

Our **Customer Service Representatives** come from different schools in Metro Manila and the provinces. They have had different past jobs from various industries. Some were teachers, salesmen, med reps, or CSRs from other call centers. Some are fresh grads, housewives, or people going back to the workforce after years of pursuing other personal interests. They have different ages (anywhere from 20 to secret), different college degrees, different hobbies, talents, past lives, etc. You can say we celebrate diversity. What they do have in common are the following:

- ☞ they love talking on the phone for hours on end (we mean this literally)
- ☞ they like interacting with new people from different countries
- ☞ they love exploring new opportunities and learning new things
- ☞ they're night people (they love to work at night and sleep during the day)
- ☞ they're comfortable conversing with foreigners (Americans, Hispanics, Europeans, Asians) using American English
- ☞ they're good with basic math - addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- ☞ they have a passion for helping other people

If you have these qualities, have a college degree, are computer proficient, and have strong customer service skills- chances are, you can become one of our good **Customer Service Representatives (Inbound/Outbound)**. If you've always wanted to work in a call center, you might as well join the head of the pack.

We are also accepting applications for :**Trainers**

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Email it to: psi@parlance.com.ph

CAFE LUPE

CAFÉ LUPE FAMILY RESTAURANT
(Dine & Wine Under the Signs)

is urgently in need of:

4 ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

(Pls. Come Mondays & Wednesdays PM only)

- Male or Female
- College Graduate
- Preferably with experience in Advertising or Printing Sales

2 GRAPHIC ARTISTS

(Pls. Come Mondays & Wednesdays PM only)

- Male or Female
- Fine Arts or Advertising Graduate
- Preferably MAC, PC Literate, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator/ Corel

1 PRINTER OPERATOR

(Pls. Come Mondays & Wednesdays PM only)

- Preferably Male (for Tarpaulin Printing)
- Preferably with experienced in Operating Printer (Jet Format Printer)

2 BANQUET SALES MANAGER

(Pls. Come Tuesdays & Thursdays PM only)

- Preferably Female
- HRM Graduate
- Preferably with experienced in Hotel or Restaurants Sales
- Computer Literate

1 EXECUTIVE CHEF

(Pls. Come Tuesdays & Thursdays PM only)

- Male or Female
- Preferably Graduate of Culinary or related course
- With at least two (2) to five (5) years solid work experience in a fine dining restaurant or hotel industry
- Excellent communication skills and computer literate

SERVICE CREW

(Pls. Come Mondays & Wednesdays PM only)

- Preferably Male / Female
- Preferably with experienced in fine dining restaurant

4 COOKS

(Pls. Come Tuesdays & Thursdays PM only)

- Preferably Male / Female
- Atleast 2 years course graduate related in culinary or related courses
- With at least two (2) years solid work experienced

1 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

(Pls. Come Mondays & Wednesdays PM only)

- Female / Male
- Industrial Management Graduate
- Excellent communication skills Oral / Written
- Computer Literate

1 OPERATIONS MANAGER

(Pls. Come Mondays & Wednesdays PM only)

- Male / Female
- Preferably HRM Graduate
- With experienced in restaurant operation
- Excellent in communication skills and computer literate

Interested applicants are requested to personally submit their updated resume with 2x2 colored photo and other pertinent documents to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
CAFÉ LUPE FAMILY RESTAURANT
Along Edsa, MRT Guadalupe, Makati City
Telephone Nos. 896-3086 to 87/ 896-3076
Look for Ms. Marcy De Borja or e-mail it to june_anne04@yahoo.com

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FASHION DESIGNER

- Will be in involved in design & dev't of ladies teen wear
- With work experience in design or retail preferred
- Will be involed in product sourcing & sampling
- With strong organizational skills
- Female, with course/s in Clothing Tech, Fine Arts Fashion Design and related courses
- Submit samples of designs for teen wear w/ resume'

Send resume with credentials or fax/e-mail at:
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. (HRD)
996 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St.(Vito Cruz) Malate, Manila
Tels. #525-3593/523-0957 Fax # 521-36-71
E-mail: maye@elitegarments.com

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Must be Female, Single
Must have 2 years experience
Must not be more than 30 yrs. old

Interested applicants may apply in person at:

Unit 1410 Jollibee Plaza Emerald Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City look for Tina or Alan
or Fax to 633-8991

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1. Marketing and Business Development
   - strategize pitches for new accounts in the region
   - close deals on new pitches
   - meet specified sales target
2. Account Management
   - conceptualization and production of collateral such as annual reports, brochures, etc.
   - copywriting of key corporate comm. collaterals
   - coordination and liason between clients and production team
3. Advertising and Events Management
   - develop communications and marketing strategies
   - strategize and direct media campaigns
   - media planning and buying

DTP ARTISTS

- Min. 2 years experience in layout/typesetting
- Knowledge of graphic design software such as Photoshop and Pagemaker
- Additional software design like Indesign and Illustrator is an advantage
- PC-oriented. Knowledge in Mac is an advantage

COPYWRITER
(CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL)

We are looking for a talented and hard-working copywriter to work on challenging assignments for our global and local clients.

- at least 3 years advertising agency experience in branding, corporate communications, sales promotion, broadcast, direct mail, collaterals, etc.
- high-level experience with sophisticated technology-based products is preferred.

Requisites for AE and Copywriter:

- top 20% of graduating class of the ff. universities:
  - University of Philippines
  - De La Salle University
  - Ateneo De Manila University
  - University of Santo Tomas
- Strong command of written and spoken English
- Excellent marketing and presentation skills
- Tenacity to work in a fast-paced environment
- Good software knowledge such as Word, Excel
- Minimum 3 years experience with a publishing or advertising agency
- Degree in Journalism, Marketing/Mass Communications or English Language
- Single (for AE only)

Successful candidates will be offered attractive remuneration packages. Please forward resume indicating position and country of work with a non-returnable photograph to:

Xpress Media Philippines Inc.
5 F The Linden Suites 37 San Miguel Avenue Ortigas Center Pasig City Philippines [illegible]
Email: cristina [illegible] xpress.com.sg and hr [illegible] xpress.com.sg

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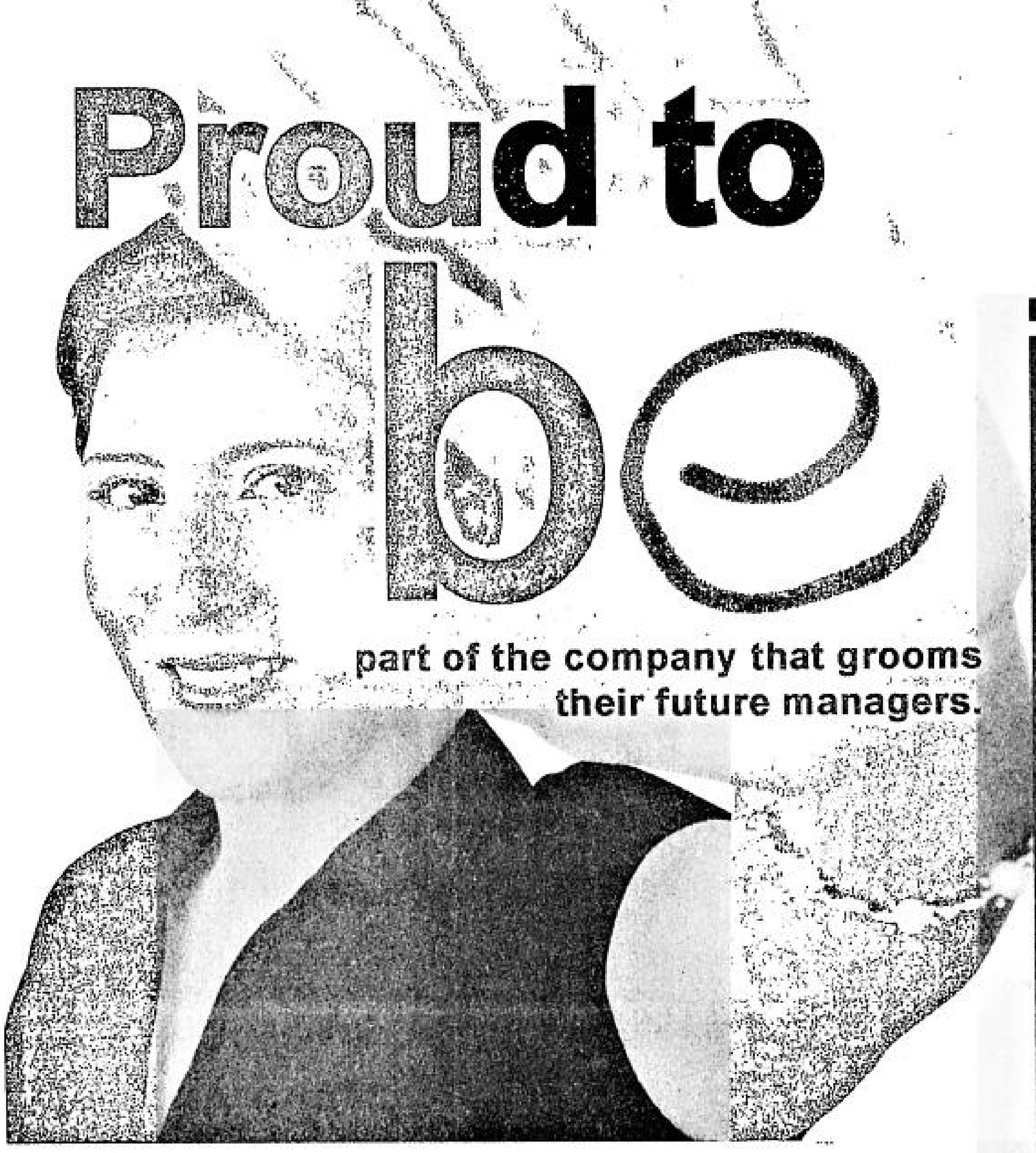
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Apas, Lahug, Cebu City
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our Cebu HR hotline at
(032) 234-8247
or email your resume to
cebu@peoplesupport.com

Davao
The Royal Mandaya Hotel,
Maharlika Function Room,
J. Palma Gil Street, Davao City
or email your resume to
davao@peoplesupport.com

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- Communication Trainers
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- Quality Assurance Manager
- Finance Operations Manager
- Financial Reporting Analysis Manager
- Systems Accountant
- Sales Officer
- CMS Administrator
- System Architect
- Telecommunications Engineer/ Telecommunications Administrators (Cebu)
- Recruitment Director
- Recruitment Manager
- Marketing Specialist
- HR Officer for Resource and Communication

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UPLiFT is a dynamic Non-Government Organization specialized in micro finance operating in the Philippines since 1993. It has 2 programs servicing Caloocan, Manila, Bulacan and Quezon City. 98% of UPLiFT workers are coming from the communities where the program operates. The total number of staff deployed in the different programs now is 165 professionals working with a spirit of NGO and voluntarism. We are taking this opportunity therefore to invite you and be part of the current team..

Finance and Admin Manager (FAM)

MISSIONS:

1. In charge of financial sustainability and administrative concerns of Bulacan/QC program;
2. To provide support, consultation and training on IT, Finance and accounting personnel of the program
   - ☐ A CPA
   - ☐ 27 to 50 years old, with 5 years of relevant experience in related sectors, such as microfinance, banking or accounting and software development
   - ☐ Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box.
   - ☐ Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfillment to work with 165 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 15,000 families.

Internal Auditor (IA)

MISSIONS

1. Ensure compliance to an efficient internal audit control procedures
2. Ensure effectiveness in evaluating overall audit results, weighing the relevancy, accuracy, and perspective of conclusions against the audit evidence of the whole organization.
   - ☐ A CPA, with preferably 3 years experience in micro enterprise
   - ☐ Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box.
   - ☐ Computer literate, preferably with experience in audit of information systems
   - ☐ Proficiency in oral and written communications
   - ☐ Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfillment to work with 165 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 15,000 families.

If you think you meet the above qualifications and requirements, please forward your application letter and resume' to:
daye.aguinaldo@uplift.org.ph

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CUSTOMER TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER

- Mechanical or Electrical Engineer
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- Ability to work independently and with high level of organizational skills and with a strong but pleasant personality
- Ability to communicate well with different levels in an organization (Fluent in both oral and written English language)
- Ability to speak Chinese is preferred
- Flexible, immune to stress and with a good service sensitive attitude
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- Highly computer literate

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Ophthalmology = 1 slot
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Gastroenterology = 2 slots
Pediatric Pulmonology = 1 slot
Nephrology = 2 slots
Infectious Diseases = 2 slots
CT-MRI (Radiology) = 1 slot
Nuclear Medicine = 2 slots

Application forms may be obtained at the Department of Medical Education Office, 9th Floor.

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Customs and International Trade Consultant

The world of international trade, including market access, tariff reform liberalization and trade remedies is an exciting and progressive field of practice to be involved in, not just in the Philippines but in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole. Anyone interested in this field, or business consulting, will be drawn to this excellent opportunity to work with a leading global firm.

Our international customs and trade practice aims to ensure our clients are efficient across the supply chain. You must have a high level of interest in customs, international trade, business issues, as well as a broad knowledge of customs issues. An interest in finance, accounting, law, government service or cross-border trade is also desirable, and you must understand how all of these affect business. You should be able to present complex issues clearly and concisely, and be able to develop and implement practical solutions in an environment of tight deadlines. You need initiative and must be able to work independently. A background in strategic trade planning with minimum exposure in trade and customs studies is desirable. Ideally, you will also have practical IT skills and working knowledge of e-commerce and its application to business. We are looking for skills and knowledge or a demonstrated ability and potential to acquire these skills quickly. Fluency in both written and spoken English and Filipino is essential. Recent graduates are welcome.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, being an Employer of Choice, offers a wealth of opportunities for the successful candidates. Our substantial investment in training and development will keep you on the cutting-edge of management thinking and the global trading environment. Plus, there is excellent opportunity for career advancement aligned with your own career aspirations. A comprehensive and attractive salary and benefits package will be offered.

If you are ready to define excellence and shape the future of business, please send your resumé either by fax or e-mail before 10 October 2004 to

PricewaterhouseCoopers
WMS (Singapore) Pte. Ltd.
Philippine Branch Office
28th Floor, Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo de Roxas,
1226 Makati City
Philippines

Fax: +63 2 885 0535
E-mail: wms.manila@ph.pwc.com

Only short-listed candidates will be notified.

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bench/ now hiring!

Bench, the country's biggest name in fashion retail, in search of customer-oriented people who can be part of our team.

AREA MANAGER

- Male/Female; not over 35 years old;
- Marketing or Business Administration graduate of a reputable school or university;
- At least 3 years experience in managerial position;
- With audit background;
- Ability to motivate teamwork;
- Ability to interact with people on all levels inside and outside of the organization;
- Willing to travel within the Philippines as may be required by the job.

AD & PROMO OFFICER

- Male; 23-28 years old
- Graduate of AB Mass Communication or Advertising from a reputable university;
- Knowledgeable of advertising requirements, observations, and conceptualizing/implementing market planning, promotions and launching campaigns;
- Can develop creative and effective advertising concepts;
- Excellent in oral and written communication;
- At least 2 years experience in the same capacity;
- Aggressive, creative and can work independently.

HR / ADMIN OFFICER

- Female; 25-35 years old;
- Preferably Management graduate or graduate of any 4-year course with equivalent experience in managing people;
- At least with one year experience in supervisory capacity;
- People-oriented, has experience in recruitment and selection process, some knowledge of labor relations and labor laws, preferably worked in a labor-intensive or industrial corporation;
- Flexible, hardworking, good in record management, needs minimum supervision.

TRAINING OFFICER

- Male/Female, not more than 23-35 years old;
- Graduate of Education or any 4-year course with teaching units or has equivalent experience;
- At least two years experience in development of training programs and modules;
- People-oriented, good communication skills, flexible, willing to work longer hours.

STORE SUPERVISORS / MANAGERS

- Male/Female; single or married;
- Between 23-30 years old;
- 5'2" for female and 5'7" for male;
- Graduate of any business related courses;
- Preferably with work-related experience in retail/food operations but new graduates with leadership potentials are welcome;
- Can work longer hours and on irregular schedule.

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES

- Female, between 22-28 years old;
- Industrial Engineering or Business Management graduate;
- One or two years experience in brand management and product development.

FIELD INVESTIGATOR

- Male, between 25-35 years old;
- Graduate of BS Criminology;
- At least one year exposure in the field of security investigation;
- With knowledge in Police coordination and court proceeding or legal aspect;
- Skilled in driving any type of vehicle.

SUYEN CORPORATION
2214 Tolentino Street, Pasay City, 1304 Philippines
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**Please come for interview and bring your resumé with transcript of records and recent 2x2 ID picture
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MICROCADD TECHNOLOGIES
(For deployment to SM Pampanga)

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Utility Staffs

For CAD Instructors: send resume w/ clear pic.For other positions Interview will be on October 07, 2004 at 1 - 3 pm
5/F Doña Consolacion Bldg., 603 Gen. Santos Ave., Araneta Center, Cubao,Quezon City (beside Farmers)

WANTED

Sales Coordinators

- Female, single, 20-26 years old
- College Grad from reputable schools

An Ortigas-center based e-commerce enterprise is in need of S.C. w/ occasional field trips.

Interested parties may apply in person.
Maan/Penny (Tel: 6346273) or
Email at cascade_78@yahoo.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

MARKETING MANAGER

- Must be able to sell innovative and artistic ideas
- Help to grow the business and strengthen the relationship with key corporate accounts
- 3-5 years of experience in related field
- Must possess at least a Bachelor's/College degree in Marketing or Business Management
- Strong leadership and decision-making skills
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Fluent written and oral English and Filipino

INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER

- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) has an advantage
- With 5 years supervisory or managerial experience as Internal Auditor or as External Auditor
- Adept in computer application related to accounting and audit
- With strong communication skills
- Values driven, diligent worker and team-player
- Willing to be assigned in Laguna

SR. ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- Male or female
- Accounting Graduate, preferably CPA
- At least 2 years worked experienced as Accounting Supervisor & if possible with Audit background
- Familiar with Generally Accepted International Accounting Standard
- Responsible, hardworking & trustworthy
- Can communicate well, written & verbally

CREDIT SUPERVISOR

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree or Professional License (Passed Board/Bar/Professional License Exam) in Finance/Accountancy/ Banking or equivalent.
- Required skill(s): word, excel, power point.
- At least 3 years experience in Credit and Collection.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of Mass Communication, Marketing or related courses
- With excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- With 1-2 years experience in sales/Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Independent and can work with minimal supervision
- Able to establish rapport with clients
- Dynamic, go-getter, a good team player

ACCOUNT OFFICER

- College graduate
- Computer literate
- Hardworking with decisive mind
- With experience on printing consumable materials
- With newsprint and paper background
- Can easily adjust on work schedules

TREASURY/ACCOUNTING ANALYST

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree or Professional License (Passed Board/Bar/Professional License Exam) in Finance/Accountancy/ Banking or equivalent.
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Required skill(s): word, excel, power point.
- At least 2 year(s) of working experience in the related field is required for this position.
- Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employees specializing in Finance - General/Cost Accounting/Credit and Collection or equivalent.
- Applicants must willing to be assigned in Laguna

INTERNAL AUDIT ANALYST

- With at least 1-2 years auditing experience from manufacturing company or auditing firm
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Adept in computer application related to accounting and audit
- With strong communication skills
- Values driven, diligent worker and team-player
- Willing to be assigned in Laguna

FOLDING AND GLUING MACHINE OPERATOR

- Male/Female
- Previous experience with operation of automatic folding and gluing machines preferred

DIE CUTTING MACHINE OPERATOR

- Male/Female
- College graduate with engineering background preferred
- Previous experience with automatic platen die cutting machines will be considered.

ASTER SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR

- At least high school; preferably with technical school education
- Preferably with experience in operating post press machines
- Hard working and willing to work long hours

FOLDING MACHINE OPERATOR

- At least high school graduate; preferably with technical school education
- Preferably with experience in operating post press machines
- Hardworking/willing to work long hours

ASSISTANT PRESSMAN

- Preferably 2 years experience sheet fed operation
- Fast learner
- College level

FEP Printing Corporation
Louie R. Prieto Press Building
Mascardo Street near corner Pasong Tamo, Makati City
Or Email aoasan@fep.ph/ailumin@fep.ph

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Account Managers for Manufacturing

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Management, Accounting, Industrial or Chemical Engineering
- At least 2 years)\ of working experience in the related field is required for this position.
- A communication skill with ability to make product presentations and network with clients is a must.
- Exposure in selling any of the following systems is an advantage:
  1. Manufacturing Systems
  2. ERP Systems
  3. CRM Systems
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2nd Floor UA Building
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Or e-mail to:
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Do you have experience in managing a progressive Business Print Center offering Large Format Printing, Tarpaulin Printing, Large Poster Printing, Sign Printing and Cutting, Graphic Design and Pre Print Equipment, Digital Engraving machinery?

Have you worked with Large Format Printers, Printed Tarpaulins, Roland Large Format Printers, Roland Print and Cut machines, Roland Engraving Machines?

If you have experience in the above, we would like to meet with you and discuss our staffing needs and whether you are the person to work with us.

Business Print Center Manager
Business Print Center Sales Staff
Technical/Graphic Printer Operator
Graphic Designer

Please send or email resume' with photo to:

Alpine Corporation
Suite 206 Lyman Ogilby Centrum, 358 Magsaysay Ave., Baguio City
Telefax No. (074) 300 4700
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October 3, Sunday - Grilla, Libis (10am to 5pm)
October 4, Monday - Giligan's Island, Park Square Drive, across Goldcrest, Makati (11am to 7pm)
October 4, Monday - 31st flr. Discovery Center, (10am to 7pm)

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We are inviting applications from people with the following qualifications:

- College degree from a reputable university
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- 2 years experience in commercial or consumer banking, retail banking, insurance or other financial services
- Strong interpersonal, presentation and communication skills
- Good network of contacts
- Philippine citizenship (this is a requirement)

Qualified applicants will undergo a selection process which includes a series of tests and interviews.

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Resourcing and Development
HSBC
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ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center,
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- Provide solutions to customers' problems by working with Emerson divisions.

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- Customer service advocates who are motivated and process oriented
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- Above average English language communication skills
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   F, 25-30 yrs. old, Graduate of Law, With at least 6-mos. work experience *preferably* in a Non-life insurance company; Computer Literate; Highly organized; With good communication skills/ able to work with less supervision.
3. ***ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR***
   M/F, 25-35 yrs. old, CPA/Accounting/Banking & Finance Graduate; With 1-2 years work experience as Acct. Supervisor, Computer Literate, With good communication skills; able to work with less supervision.
4. ***LAWYER***
   M/F, 26-35 yrs. old; With 1-2 years Litigation experience; Computer Literate; With good communication skills

Applicants may hand-carry or mail their resumé with 2x2 colored picture & transcript of records until October 8, 2004 to:

The Human Resources Department PH-1 Prestige Tower, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

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- PRC License preferred but not necessary

Bring resumé and transcript of records to:

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The candidate will have overall responsibility for managing the smooth flow of operations of a team of billing specialists, particularly in meeting clients' expectations. This position leads a team of shift supervisors to ensure that all training and development needs of the operations staff are met. He/She shall, likewise, oversee the activities of the other depts. in the company including Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. It requires graveyard shift schedule.

Qualifications:
2-5 years managerial experience pref. in a medical transcription/call center company. Excellent leadership, highly analytical and with good problem-solving skills. Able to operate independently and in consultation with top management. Highly proficient in software applications (Excel, Access).

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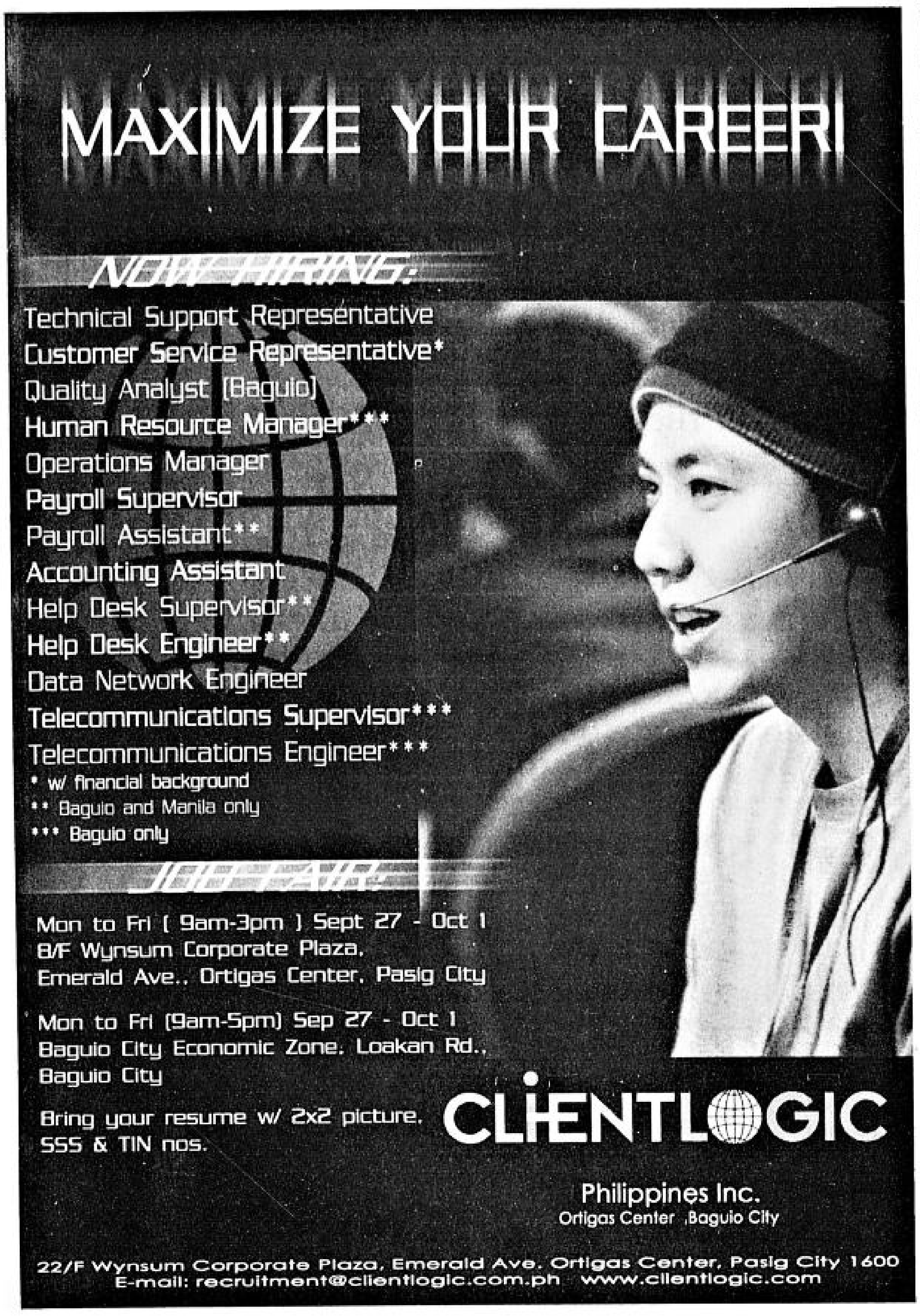

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INTERNATIONAL CHEF
HOUSEKEEPING EXECUTIVE

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- Married Couple, Filipino
- 30-45 years old
- Must have an experience in a 5-Star Hotel or in an upper class Western and Middle East Family/Embassy
- Has pleasing personality,
- Fluent in Oral and Written English. (Ability to speak French is an advantage)
- Has good interpersonal communication skills
- Can work well even under pressure, flexibility w/ regard to working hours
- Has initiative, observant for details
- One of the couple should know how to drive a motor vehicle

Specific Qualifications:

International Chef: He/She must have an extensive training in Culinary Arts, in Chef 5-Star Hotel or Restaurant with training and certifications.

Proficient and able to prepare high standard European and International food, (mainly French and Italian); (knowledge of Far Eastern cuisine would be desirable), both for entertainment purposes as well as for family consumption.

He/She is expected to take part in the hotel related chores

Additional responsibilities may be given as circumstances may require

Housekeeping Executive: Preferably with 5-Star Hotel or Restaurant related training and experiences.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:

International Chef: He/She is primarily responsible for the preparations of the food. Working knowledge of health food diet, wines, vintages, temperatures, etc.
He /She is expected to take part in the hotel related chores, fine dining table setting
Additional responsibilities may be given as circumstances may require.

Housekeeping Executive: **Chambermaid/Waitress from 5-Star hotel or restaurant.** He/She is primarily responsible for the total cleanliness of the house, ability to plan household purchasing in an efficient and timely manner, ability to manage household financial accounts. Knowledge of flower arrangements.

Applicants should have excellent track record of experience and referrals; Service and Result Oriented; With high level of integrity and professionalism; Honest, dedicated and trustworthy.

Terms and conditions of employment will be discussed during interview.

Interested applicants may send their curriculum vitae and other credentials (Marriage certificates, driver's license, NBI clearance, residence certificate, barangay and police clearance) to:

Ms. Evelyn dela Cruz
Administrative/Human Resources Manager
6th Floor, Don Chua Lamko Bldg, 100 L.P Leviste St.
cor H.V. Dela Costa Sts., Salcedo Village
Makati, City

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JOB OPENING

25

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• MARKET DEVELOPMENT OFFICER *(Agrikultura Pilipina Inc.)*

We are looking for an aggressive individual with marketing & selling experience, not more than 30 years old, college graduate, with good communication & people relation skills, must know how to drive. Successful candidate will be responsible in developing wholesalers/ distributors for Anthurium Cutflowers in Metro Manila, nearby provinces, and key cities in the Philippines.

• CORPORATE ACCOUNT OFFICERS *(Holland Blooms)*

We are looking for aggressive individuals with marketing and selling experience, not more than 28 years old, college graduate, with good communication & people relation skills, and must be good team players. They will be tasked to service corporate and institutional accounts for their flower requirements. Fieldwork will be extensive. They must be willing to undergo product immersion and intensive in-house training.

The company provides above industry compensation package and opportunities for career advancement. Send Applications not later than Friday, October 8, 2004 at:

LOGBOAT HOLDINGS
Human Resources Development Office
96 New York near Yale Street Cubao,
Quezon City Fax No. 913-6104

AGRIKULTURA PILIPINA INC
Holland Blooms

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Incorporated

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- ✓ College graduate, preferably Engineering, Law, Marketing or Business Management, from a reputable school (at least belong to the top 10 of your class)
- ✓ Good oral and written communication skills
- ✓ Pleasing personality, and at ease when talking/meeting new people
- ✓ Good moral character
- ✓ Experienced in servicing and business solicitation of life, non-life and health lines preferred but not a must
- ✓ Highly skilled in Microsoft Office
- ✓ Pro-active and could work with minimum supervision and results-oriented

Please send (in a sealed envelope marked CONFIDENTIAL) your updated resumé containing your personal data, academic background, professional experience and at least three character references, together with your letter of application, transcript of records and one passport size picture to:

**The Chief Financial Officer
Jardine Lloyd Thompson Insurance Brokers, Inc.
25th Floor, Philamlife Tower
8767 Paseo de Roxas,
1226 Makati City**

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SYNERGY INTERNATIONAL TRAINING & SERVICES, INC.

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WE WANT YOU FOR OUR TEAM

AS PART OF OUR ON-GOING EXPANSION WE ARE IN NEED OF AN:

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. FEMALE 22-35 YEARS OLD
2. COLLEGE GRADUATE
3. COMPUTER PROFICIENT IN MS OFFICE APPLICATIONS
4. EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND PROFICIENCY IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE BOTH WRITTEN AND ORAL
5. SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE IS PREFERRED

ADVANTAGE SKILLS NEEDED:

1. UNDERSTANDING OF QUALITY SYSTEM STANDARDS I.E. ISO 9001:2000
2. GOOD PEOPLE HANDLING SKILLS
3. UNDERSTANDING OF TRAINING ENVIRONMENT AND HR DEVELOPMENT

Interested applicants may send their letter of application with comprehensive resumé, 2x2 picture, copy of training certificates, college diploma and transcript of records and certificates of previous experiences as applicable to:

THE PRESIDENT
SYNERGY INTERNATIONAL TRAINING & SERVICES, INC.
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- Must be college graduate

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- [illegible]

ACTUARIAL SPECIALIST

- Graduate of BS Math or BS Actuarial Science
- [illegible] actuarial work experience with an insurance company

BUDGET & CONTROL OFFICER

- Graduate of Accountancy/Accounting
- [illegible] validation
- [illegible]

CORPORATE PLANNING SPECIALIST

- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- [illegible]
- [illegible] with Accounting experience

IT INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT OFFICER

- [illegible]
- [illegible] Windows 2000/XP/98, Microsoft Office
- [illegible] AS400 [illegible]
- [illegible]

WORKSITE MANAGER

- [illegible]
- [illegible]
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- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]

In addition to the above requirements, the candidates must be:

- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible] environment of excellence

GENERALI PILIPINAS

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Human Resources Department, G/F Gercon Plaza Building, 7901 Makati Avenue, Makati City, 1226 Philippines ● Tel.: 886-5258 Fax: 893-4195 ● hrd@generali.com.ph

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- Must have finished a degree in BS/BA in Business, Marketing, Statistics, Economics or related fields. MBA or equivalent MA strongly preferred.
- Must have 2 years working with relational decision-support databases (preferably a data warehousing environment), along with demonstrated quantitative skills. Strong experience with SAS and other data processing tools like Business Objects.
- Must be able to communicate technical information to non-technical audiences.
- Must have the ability to prioritize and handle multiple projects and work with minimal supervision
- Will work on a morning shift schedule

HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST

- Must have a college degree in any of the following fields: Human Resources, Psychology, or related fields.
- Must have at least 3 years of exposure in Compensation & Benefits/Employee Relations.

TRAINER

- Must have 1-3 years progressive work-related experience in training and/or education of an equivalent combination of education and work-related experience.
- Preferably an English major.

PROOFREADER

- Must have a degree in English or other related fields.
- Must have at least 1 year experience and excellent eye in proofreading of letter compositions.
- Excellent English written communication skills, better than average spelling ability and with proficient computer skills.
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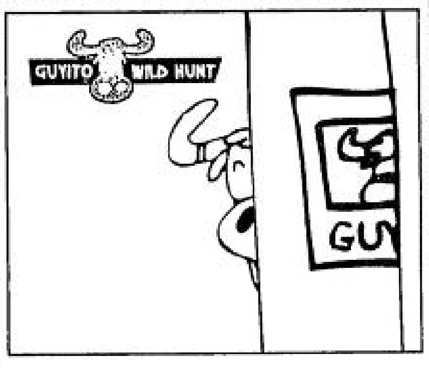
All applicants should have excellent English communication skills and should be willing to work graveyard shift except for Reporting Specialist. Previous applicants need not re-apply.



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Monthly Draw: October 22 and Nov. 22, 2004
Grand Draw: Dec. 21, 2004

See posters and print ads for details.
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- Male 22 to 26 yrs old, at least 5'6", pleasing personality
- Marketing or Mass Com Graduate
- Comp. literate, trainable w/ above ave. verbal/written comm. skills
- Willing to be assigned in local & international branches
- Fresh graduates are welcome

Creative Web Developer

- Graduate of a computer related course (Computer Science, Computer Eng'g., IT)
- At least 2 yrs. of experience as web developer
- Proficient in the ff. technologies: MS FrontPage, Macromedia Dreamweaver, Flash, Fireworks, Director/Adobe Photoshop, ImageReady/HTML/XHTML Transitional JavaScript/DHTML, CSS, ASP/VBScript ColdFusion, CGI, PHP, PERL MySQL
- Experienced in Linux/Unix-like OS/TCP/IP Suites, Web/FTP/DNS/Mail servers, Open Source Software
- Must be creative, analytical, dependable and hardworking

Applicants for the **Events Organizer** look for **Ms. Lynden Valdez** or email: lynden@edmark-intl.com

Applicants for the **Creative Web Developer** look for **Ms. Andrea Tabisaura** or email: dea.tabs@edmark-intl.com

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Tel. 913-5515

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– **(35) Sales Agents** – 25-35 yrs. old – 8K - 10K

Fax, hand carry your resumé w/ 2x2 picture at The World Centre 24/F Sen. Gil Puyat ext. Makati City.
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IT INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT OFFICER

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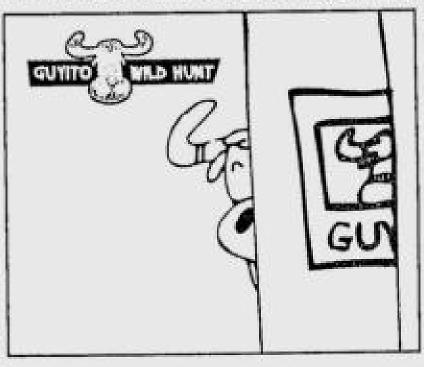

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C & S UNIQUE STYLE CORPORATION
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Send your resumé instantly.

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Make a successful transition from college to career

(Here are some tips from those who would like to successfully move from college to a good career, continued from last week.)

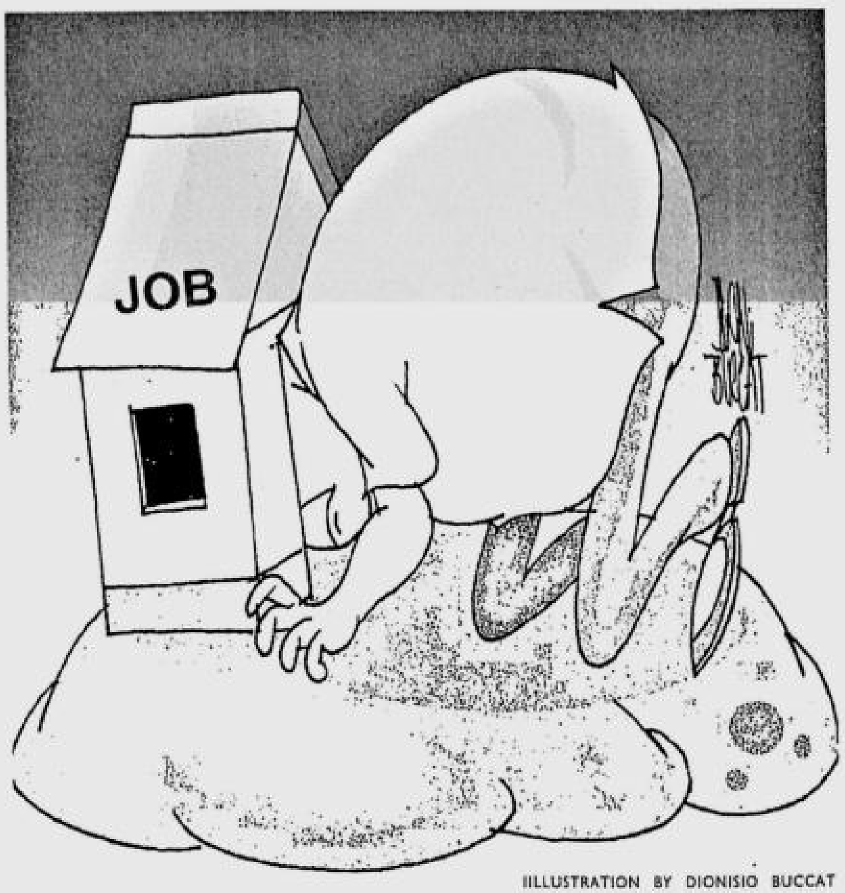

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

5. **FINDING employment probably won't be easy.**

Perhaps it is because most of today's college students grew to adulthood in a period of unsurpassed prosperity and growth during the Clinton administration, but it seems to be a harsh reality to many college seniors and recent grads that obtaining a job offer is very time-consuming and a lot of work—and it's even harder to obtain the ideal scenario of having multiple job offers.

"One job (opening) can get hundreds of resumés," a business-school grad observed. "I have seen in past jobs when resumés came in, basically it was luck of the draw as to who got called in. So many people had similar skills, my employer literally went by things such as resumé appearance or randomly choosing 10 out of 30 similar but great resumés. Its tough!"

As most experienced jobseekers already know, you have to spend time every day looking for employment. Use all available resources, tracking down all job leads, and following-up on all leads and interviews. Generally speaking, the more quality work you put into your job search, the better your results.

One other common misconception of college students is the over-reliance on the Internet and passive job hunting to find employment. The Internet should really receive only a small portion of your job search time. Instead, most of your efforts should still be using the traditional methods of networking—with family and friends, other students, alumni (especially recent alumni), professors, former coworkers and bosses, etc. Don't take our word for it. Read the comments of numerous new grads who discovered the value of networking.

6. **Don't be so full of yourself.**

Having a college degree does not entitle you to a job, and it's best to prepare yourself now that most employers will not be impressed with your grades or your education as you are with them. "As a cum laude graduate, I thought I was entitled to a great job right out of college," a 2000 marketing grad told us. ""Well after two years, with five jobs in three cities, I think I've found the job that I was expecting to get after graduation!" Attending a "name" school or having an extremely high grade-point average are definitely selling points in your favor, but not something you solely rely to get a job.

Focus less on why employers should be so impressed with your credentials that they should be hunting you down—and more on how you can use your talent and initiative to make a contribution to the employer's bottom line. Be sure to tell the employer how you will make a strong contribution.

One of the reasons many career experts try to keep college graduates to a one-page resumé is because there often is simply no need to go beyond one page—except for the student to oversell his or her qualifications and for the employer to be unimpressed.

7. **College grads get entry-level jobs.**

One of the harsh realities that many new grads face—especially in the bad job markets—is that a large number of the jobs available for college grads are, in fact, entry-level. These jobs often require long hours, low pay, and hard work.

Some recent grads have turned up their noses at job offers because of the sense that the jobs were below them; perhaps the jobs required helping stock shelves or traveling too much.

This advice is not meant to imply that you should take the first job offer you get—or any job offer you get—just be realistic in your expectations. Most employers want to see all employees start at a certain level to better understand the business—with the college grads on a career track toward faster advancement. So, just do your research about employers before jumping to conclusions about the value of certain types of jobs.

Do be ambitious about moving beyond the entry level, but not at the expense of your current job. As another business-school grad told us, "Former coworkers of mine became so obsessed with finding a better job that they forgot about the responsibilities of their current positions."

8. **Be prepared for salary negotiations and job offers.**

If you're one of the lucky college grads, you'll get more than one job offer. Having more than one offer gives you the luxury of deciding if one—or any—of them is right for you. You should be prepared not only to negotiate the salary and the entire compensation package, but also have a clear sense of what you want before the issue arises.

If you did get two or more job offers, how would you decide? What criteria would you use? What's important to you? Salary? Prestige? Company car? Travel? Vacation? Benefits? Relocation? Company culture?

One recent marketing grad we know was trying to decide between two very different job offers. One was a sales position for a well-known company. The offer included a very high salary and bonus system, and company car. The downsides were a lot of time spent on the road, no clear career path, and a feeling of unease with the corporate culture. Her other offer was with a marketing communications agency as an account representative. The offer included a salary almost half of the sales one, with no bonuses and no company car. It did include a dynamic work environment, a clear career path, and a sense of strong fit with the agency's corporate culture. She was faced with the dilemma of going for the quick money or a longer-term career move. She chose the agency. Which would you choose?

Final thoughts

Strive to get the best job offers from the best employers, but remember to temper everything you do with a realistic vision of what to really expect—in the job-hunt and in getting job offers. Take to heart the advice from all the recent college grads that have come before you and been in your shoes—and you'll be better prepared and more satisfied with your job search.

Questions about some of the terminology used in this article? Get more information (definitions and links) on key college, career, and job-search terms by going to our Job-Seeker's Glossary of Job-Hunting Terms.

(Dr. Randall Hansen is currently the webmaster of Quintessential Careers, as well as publisher of its electronic newsletter, QuintZine. He writes a biweekly career advice column under the name, The Career Doctor. He is also a tenured, associate professor of marketing in the School of Business Administration at Stetson University in DeLand, Florida. Katharine Hansen, Credentialed Career Master [CCM], is a former speechwriter and college instructor who provides content for Quintessential Careers, edits QuintZine, an electronic newsletter for jobseekers, and prepares job-search correspondence as chief writer for Quintessential Resumés and Cover Letters. The Hansens are authors of numerous books, including: Dynamic Cover Letters; Dynamic Cover Letters for New Graduates; A Foot in the Door: Networking your Way into the Hidden Job Market; and Write your Way to a Higher GPA, all published by Ten Speed Press. Copyright by Quintessential Careers. The original article can be found at www.quintcareers-.com/college-to-career.html. Reprinted with permission.)

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☐ Possesses skills in sales forecasting, marketing strategy and industry analysis
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☐ With excellent written and communication skills

Account Manager

Qualifications:
☐ Not more than 30 years old
☐ College graduate
☐ Minimum 1 year experience in IT products and solutions
☐ Strong work ethics, aggressive and hardworking
☐ Good communication and presentation skills

Sales / Admin Assistant

Qualifications:
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☐ Computer literate
☐ Working knowledge of MS Office and Corel Draw
☐ Has initiative, fast learner, can work well under pressure with minimum supervision

Interested candidates may send their comprehensive resumé to sales@shellsoft.com.ph

Or mail to: **Shellsoft Technology Corporation**
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i. Resume stating your experiences, strength and achievements. Attach a recent photograph (non-returnable).
ii. Assuming you were running a small store selling new-brand home appliances, write an essay on how you will, step by step stating your basis and strategies, drive this new brand to become a well-known brand in the Philippines within 2~3 years. Focus on effective strategies with facts and datas.

Note: If you are only looking for a rice bowl, do not apply. This post is for those who have passions in the field of marketing, sensitive to market conditions, good understanding of customer behaviors, a strong urge to see and enjoy seeing his/her plans work and, dare to make decisions.

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- Male, not more than 30 years old
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HR work helped personnel officer to be 'people-friendly'

By Cecile G. Garcia
Contributor

HR FOCUS

ESSENTIALLY, what keeps Janet Dizon interested in her job is the opportunity it provides for interacting with people. "I learn from the different kinds of people I meet, especially those I interview," she says. Dizon is personnel officer of the Cinderella Marketing Corporation, and one of her principal functions is to conduct interviews with applicants on the supervisory and managerial levels and to do the final screening of casual employees.

Some of Dizon's other duties as personnel officer are, attending to the day-to-day work-related problems and concerns of employees, handling their grievances and complaints and counseling them if necessary, conducting orientation and exit interviews (for newly hired employees and for those who wish to resign, respectively) and receiving transfer requests and acting on them. Dizon reports directly to the HR manager and is one of the department's staff of five.

Dizon, 28, a graduate of BS Psychology at the Centro Escolar University (she took up Computer Programming at STI later on), signed up with Cinderella Marketing seven years ago, following her graduation from college. She recounts, "I started out as a psychometrician. My job was to interpret the different psychological tests given to applicants. It was my first job." After two years, she was promoted to HR assistant in charge of interviews and finally, to personnel officer.

The culture at Cinderella is friendly and familial and, therefore, conducive to healthy relations between management and staff, claims Dizon. Cinderella Marketing is under the umbrella of the Cinderella Group of Companies, licensed distributor of foreign name brands like Osh Kosh, U2, Esprit, Pierre Cardin, Naf Naf and British India. The 56-year-old establishment, which began as a specialty store for children's apparel, is a family corporation. Cinderella Marketing has less than 250 regular employees and over 200 casuals,. including fashion consultants, sales persons, cashiers and others.

Family culture

There is little bureaucracy in the company and employees feel free to approach management or the owners. "Both are open and willing to listen. They encourage communication. They have a positive attitude towards employees," explains Dizon. If certain steps have to be taken, it is understood that these must go through the proper channels.

As far as Dizon is concerned, everyday is a challenge. For unlike in other departments, HR work is not structured, she clarifies. It varies from day to day. "There are different problems every day of the week, from recruitment to compensation to benefits," avers the officer. She finds personal satisfaction in finding solutions and in overcoming these problems, she adds.

How does HR contribute to the growth of the company? Says Dizon, "Mainly, by trying to hire people who are qualified and competent. We arrange training programs and seminars for employees and see to it that they enjoy all the benefits due them."

For her part, Dizon feels she can best contribute to the company's well-being by continuing to be dedicated, persevering, loyal, and by trying to be a role model for the rest of the employees. Dizon points out that the long years she has spent working for the company are in themselves a worthy contribution.

HR challenges

Her job has been instrumental in the development of her personality, discloses Dizon. "It has drawn me out of myself. I used to be shy. I have more self-confidence now. I relate and communicate well with others. As personnel officer, one needs to have a mature and independent mind because one has to be able to carry out one's duties and whatever the job requires, with a minimum supervision," she says.

Perhaps the most difficult aspect of a personnel officer's job is assessing the suitability of an applicant for the position he is applying for and determining whether to recommend an employee for promotion. This is where sound judgment comes in handy, allows Dizon. "It's also important to have a thorough understanding of the organization. A proficiency in interview techniques and procedure, psychological testing, and familiarity with the different types of industrial and projective tests is basic," she points out.

Employees of the company, both officers and rank and file, are properly motivated. "This is done mainly through promotions, annual salary increases and other benefits. HR does the implementation," says Dizon. HR is the heart and soul of the company, she adds. "We help promote good relations in the working environment. We intervene and act as intermediary between management and staff, especially when there is disagreement or miscommunication." HR is always ready to assist every employee, affirms the officer.

DIZON RUDY ESPERAS

Successful and happy

Dizon, incidentally, is married and has a one-and-a-half-year-old daughter. She says her goal is "to serve the needs of HR, especially in recruitment." But, a bigger goal is to become HR head one day, and she prepares herself by reading, attending seminars and workshops, gaining experience and by drawing inspiration from her role models, the managers of the company.

For Dizon, fulfillment means doing her part as a mother and performing her duties as personnel officer to the best of her ability. On the other hand, she claims, success is being able to do what you want in life and being satisfied with it. "You can't be successful if you're not happy," she says.

How to answer frequently...

From page 13

main calm by doing regular breathing exercises and praying for guidance. Then, I identify my options and ask my superior and team members for their suggestions."

There may be other questions that will be asked during the interview, which shows that the interviewer is interested in your answers and the way you answer them. This is a good sign.

Additional notes

Here are some more tips that can help you in a job interview.

1. If the interviewer asks a difficult question that you can't answer immediately, ask him or her to repeat the question again, to qualify or to explain it. For example, "Excuse me, Sir/Ma'am. Can you please repeat the question?" or "Can you please explain what you mean by it?" Then listen

2. If during the interview, you get a job offer, you should not immediately accept it. This is now your opportunity to ask the interviewer about: 1) main responsibilities of the job and expectations of you, and 2) the whole package: basic salary, benefits, bonus, relocation, etc. Give yourself some time to think about the job offer. Ask for a few days to consider it. This will prepare you for negotiations that might be needed in the near future.

3. A good way to end an interview is to ask the interviewer the following questions, the answer to which will not be volunteered to you unless you do so:

- "Given my skills, experience and interests, would you consider me for this job?"
- "Would you want me to come back for another interview?" Or, "When may I expect to hear from you?" And then, "What would be the latest date I can expect to hear from you?"
- "May I contact you after that date, if for any reason, I have not heard from you?"

4. After a job interview, write a thank you letter immediately to the person who interviewed you. Make sure you have the right name, right spelling and right job title of the interviewer. Send your thank you letter by fax, e-mail, or special delivery. Sending a thank you letter makes you different from most job applicants. It also shows you have good people skills. It also helps the interviewer to remember you and to show your letter to his or her peers. Additionally, this gives you an opportunity to correct any wrong impressions you may have created.

5. Assess your interview. Learn from it. Make necessary corrections. Then, use your learning to be and to do better in the next interview with another company.

Applying for the job in the right company requires diligent efforts and time. But it is worth it. There are many good books on job hunting and job interviews. A good one to read is, "What Color is Your Parachute? A Practical Manual for Job Hunters and Career Changers" by Richard Nelson Bolles. This is available in all popular bookstores.

May God bless you and your efforts to get the right job that will use the talents, skills and resources He has given you.

(*Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems Inc., a leading career development consultancy company. Send requests for career advice to* carsys@qinet.net *or to* peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph).

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Work with faith

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Gospel: Luke 17: 5-10

And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to (this) mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

TIM was an automotive mechanic in the school I once served. He was very skillful and had a good deal of work experience in Saudi Arabia and various automotive service centers in Manila. He worked successfully on the service car I designed, which was a *mestizo*-make of sorts—a combination of a Fiat engine, a Toyota transmission gearbox, a Lancer differential system, on a Ford Escort two-door body and chassis. When I asked him how he was able to solve the complex technical problems posed by mixing several car parts of different brands, he simply retorted with great confidence "*Kung gawa ng tao 'yan, magagawa ko rin!*" (If it is man-made, I can also do it).

Tim's great faith and self-confidence is what many workers need to be also successful in their jobs. A good work performance starts with a positive view of one's self and a humble acceptance of one's capabilities, which in turn gives one a high degree of self-confidence.

But a much superior or even prodigious way of working can spring from a faith deeper than faith in one's self—one, which the apostles asked the Lord to increase in them—a faith in God, which can "move mountains."

The workplace should provide the atmosphere and opportunities for such faith in God to grow and to mature. Training programs, which the management would offer the workers, should include not only those for special skills upgrading but also those which lead the workers to self-realization and awareness of their dependence on God's power. The workplace will then witness several miracles happen—excellent job performances. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

The gift of faith

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

WORK is one area of life where one's faith may be tried and tested—no matter what work one does or what religious beliefs one holds. Even though you are not normally a Lord-praising person, or one who makes a habit of consciously involving God in all your activities, there come times, desperate times, when nothing else seems to work. Your staff loses confidence in you, your bosses stop trusting you, your colleagues avoid you, and even your friends and family can't see your point. And so you try faith.

Doctors—for whom saving lives is an everyday thing—can attest to this fact. How many times have we heard a doctor (when science, state-of-the-art ICU equipment, and all human knowledge fail) say to a dying patient's family, "*Ipagpaubaya na lang natin sa Diyos iyan; baka may milagro pang mangyari*, (Let's just leave it to the Lord; a miracle just might happen). " Not a few times, a miracle does happen: overnight, blockages disappear, cancerous growths vanish, the patient emerges from a coma—baffling the doctors, but increasing their faith at the same time. It's like leaping into an abyss in pitch darkness, only to discover you've landed on solid earth two feet below.

That is what's so marvelous about faith. Its source is bottomless and it never fails you. Even when your well of faith seems to run dry, you can still ask, "Lord, increase our faith," and it shall be given. Your faith has not been tried? Well, I hope you get boxed into a corner (smile!), where your last resort is faith—not out of malevolence, but precisely because I wish you to savor the goodness of the Author of Faith. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

DIONI BUCCAT

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

How to answer frequently asked questions in job interviews

By Josie O. Santamaria

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

(This is the continuation of Ms Santamaria's advice to Mr. D. on how to prepare for a job interview.)

HERE are answers to frequently answered questions during job interviews.

"What salary do you expect?"

Research on this from your network of relatives and friends. But even if you have the data, do not give a specific figure when asked during a job interview. If you give an amount that is too low, it shows that you don't see your value and you may be seen as not "up to the work." If you mention too high a figure, you have ruined a chance to get the job. Ask for the salary range for the position you are applying for. Then, consider your experience, qualification, etc. and the data from your own interviews.

Here's how you can answer this question: "Thank you for quoting the salary range. Considering my two years work experience, my achievements in my last job position. I will be happy with a salary range of P_____ to P____ a month plus the benefits."

"What is your current salary?"

In answering this question, do not bluff. Your answer here can be verified. Give your exact salary and the benefits you enjoyed.

"Have you ever dealt with a demanding and unreasonable customer? How did you handle the situation?"

This question is obviously aimed at knowing how you handle people who lose their tempers and the stress that they cause. The interviewer wants to find out if you are able to handle situations like this with tact and maturity.

A good answer could be, "Yes, I did encounter a situation when an angry client was shouting at me over the phone. She was accusing us that our product did not carry an expiration date and that when he opened the can, the color was already rusty. She threatened to report the matter to TV and radio stations and to Deparment of Trade and Industry. What I did was to allow her to shout at me. I merely said 'Yes Ma'am.' Then, later I told her 'If I were in your place, I will be disappointed and angry, too.' This calmed her down. Then, I asked for her address and told her I'll have someone pick up the can and replace it with two cans. I apologized to her and told her we will be very careful with the expiry date label in the future."

"How do you manage stress in your daily work?"

Every job involves stress e.g., unreasonable demands from people you work with, deadlines, and unavailability of needed resources, unmet needs, etc. The interviewer wants to find out your habitual ways of coping or managing these daily stresses. The usual ways of dealing with stress is flight (get away from it, avoid it and deny it) or fight (hostile and aggressive behavior directed at the direct source or a convenient "scapegoat"). Neither is correct. The correct way is to deal directly with the situation calmly. Use of breathing exercise, drinking water and praying for guidance can help in keeping you calm. Then, take note of options in dealing with a stressful situation. Ask your coworkers for options, and the pros and cons of each option. Then, decide on a course of action. If you do these, then describe a situation to the interviewer and what you did. If you were not able to handle a stressful situation properly, admit your deficiency but be quick to point out what you learned from your experience.

An example would be: "In the past, I found it convenient to ignore the problem. But I learned that this did not solve the problem. So, now, I re

HOWTO/P.12

Third batch of 'My Trabaho' beneficiaries picked

THE THIRD batch of the "My Trabaho" beneficiaries were drawn last Sept. 22 from resumés submitted to Philippine Daily Inquirer and dzRH for the "My Trabaho" public service program as of that date. The lucky winners will attend for free, a two-day training program on Career Planning to be conducted by Dr. Josie O. Santamaria, president of Career Systems, Inc. at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office.

The following are the winners:

1. Mark Dale Albania, Cupang, Muntinlupa
2. Floreison A. Alejandro, Upper Bicutan, Taguig, Manila
3. Mercy Lenn Cruz Ambanta, Sampaloc, Manila
4. Mary Grace H. Angeles, SFDM, Quezon City
5. Reynaldo J. Arcilla, Sta. Cruz, Manila
6. Ma. Elisa Aropo, Ugong, Valenzuela City
7. Irene Diane G. Atilano, Tandang Sora, Quezon City
8. Susan Banzon, Araneta, Quezon City
9. Jesita Bautista, Tondo, Manila
10. Ma. Dina Cepeda, Mandaluyong City
11. Jonathan Cruz, Sta. Maria, Bulacan
12. Katherine Cruz, Bacoor, Cavite
13. Ann Margarette Dela Cruz, Guiguinto, Bulacan
14. Cherry Rose Dela Cruz, Marilao, Bulacan
15. Joel D. Dolfo, Dasmariñas, Cavite
16. Joseph Montoya Fresnido, Las Pinas City
17. Cristine Joy Mangahis, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
18. Eliezer P. Natividad, San Jacinto, Pangasinan
19. Ronald Ondiano, Bacoor, Cavite
20. Dirk C. Ortiz, San Dionisio, Parañaque City
21. Hedina Quitoriano, San Mateo, Rizal
22. Gilbert Realeza, Siniloan, Laguna
23. Lee Ann Rebullar, Kawit, Cavite
24. Mark Joseph Romero, Project 8, Quezon City
25. Wilson Sinen, San Pablo City
26. Ma. Victoria Suabillo, Calamba City
27. Dario Paquig Turque, Makati
28. Jerry Lumibao Valdez, Paniqui, Tarlac
29. Christopher F. Villanueva, Western Bicutan, Taguig, Manila
30. Maricris Villaraza, Binan, Laguna

Winners are advised to call Ms. Mascy Cabuhat, Marketing Dept., Philippine Daily Inquirer at tel. no. 897-8808.

Leadership expert redefines meaning of success

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

ONE day, the world's lousiest golf player hits the jackpot. Never in his life had he experienced seeing his ball after hitting it but for the first time, after a lucky stroke, his ball rolls miraculously on top of a four-inch anthill. With all his strength, he swings and misses the ball. He kills 5,000 ants in the process but miracle of miracles, the ball lands back on the now two-inch hill. Not learning his lesson still, he tries another time. He swings with all the strength he could muster and misses the ball again. But he manages to shave off another inch from the ant hill and kills 4,498 ants in the process. After witnessing what was happening, the only two ant survivors look at each other in panic. One of them quickly comes up with a solution, "I don't know about you but if we are going to survive, we had better get on the ball!"

Like this ant, "if you and I are going to survive as a leader, we have best get on the ball," says John Maxwell, America's expert on leadership. According to Maxwell, this ant knows the art of survival, leadership and success. He says we could learn a thing or two from this tiny example. In the John Maxwell Leadership Summit held last Sept. 16 at the PICC Plenary Hall, Maxwell shares this and other secrets of success.

Essence of success

An adviser to world leaders and top business leaders, Maxwell is not a stranger to success. Maxwell summarizes success in three points namely, knowing one's purpose in life, growing to one's maximum potential and sowing the seeds that would benefit others. According to the leadership guru, success is not an elusive goal like the Holy Grail. It is attainable to everyone as long as they have the passion to open themselves up to life and people and get on the ball.

Knowing one's purpose in life is already a step towards success. He reminds us, however, that in whatever endeavor we decide to take, we must remember to use our talents and capabilities to its maximum potential. One maximizes his or her potential by constantly growing and seeking out ways for improvement.

Maxwell believes that although no one is born a leader, everyone has the makings of a leader. "Your potential is God's gift to you and what you do with that potential is your gift to God," he declares with confidence.

MAXWELL

Adding value to others

Maxwell points out that many people mistakenly equate financial stability and luxury to making it. He reminds budding leaders that satisfaction and fulfillment does not come from a big fat paycheck. According to the enigmatic speaker, money is overrated.

"When you make a bunch of money, you can only still sleep on one bed at a time, you can only drive one car at a time, you could only eat one meal at a time. The only people impressed with money are the people who don't have it. Once you got it, you understand that the value of money is really overrated."

Success, according to Maxwell is not all about personal material returns. Neither is it limited to the circle of one's self. Success is about giving of oneself. "Successful people have the ability to bring people around them and develop their team so that they compound their success," Maxwell avers. This means that as one person grows, the people around him or her should be pulled up to the same level. In a team, nobody should get left behind. "Success is giving. Success is making sure that you add value to several people on the journey of life," cites the expert.

Growth plan

Every year, instead of a New Year's resolution, Maxwell makes a personal growth plan. According to him, a sure sign of a successful individual is somebody who is constantly changing because change leads to growth. A growing person is continuously readjusting, relearning and rearranging to make way for growth. In fact, Maxwell challenges people to ask themselves when was the last time they did something for the first time. "One of the ways you can tell a person is growing is if they don't do the same things they did five years ago."

Author of the best-selling "21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership," Maxwell assures his followers that they can still expect more books from him. With over 30 books to his name, New York publishers often ask the writer how many more books are left in him. "I don't know how many there are but I've got several that are saying 'let me out.' I just conceived another one," he answers. "I write all these books because I keep learning, I keep growing. I keep expanding. Everyday I've got a growth plan for myself."

Eagerness for learning

In his whole day Leadership Summit organized and presented by the Philippine Daily Inquirer, PLDT, and Salt and Light Ventures, Maxwell noted, "This country I can tell is eager to learn with a real appetite for improvement. When I teach here in the Philippines, you take notes, and you grow and you apply it. This is a fun place to go," he tells the crowd of almost 4,000.

Maxwell has been to the country once before and assures the audience that he will be back. When he returns, he is confident that he will see a different set of faces because the participants today be transformed leaders and movers in the future. Globetrotting to share the gospel on leadership and success, Maxwell stops over some countries only once. But the Philippines is another story. "Why wouldn't I come back to a country with people who have tremendous potential? In the Philippines, the people are hungry to learn."

What's inside

HR Focus: *Janet Dizon of Cinderella* *p.12*

Make a successful transition from college to career *p.10*

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sunday INQUIRER
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
October 3, 2004

Secretary Emilia T. Boncodin

The Woman Who Spends the Country's Money

By Alya B. Honasan
Photograph by Romy Homillada

The Budget and Management boss crunches big numbers for a career, but is also a self-confessed former nerd who loves romantic movies —and has not closed the door on Mr. Right

FOR the record, the woman who literally spends the money of the Republic of the Philippines is a bonafide number cruncher—"I think nowadays you would call me a nerd," she says with an infectious laugh—who actually relishes balancing books. Aside from that, she's a doting daughter and sister who loves MGM musicals, Japanese food, and Johnson's Baby Powder (her only concession to makeup).

In other words, Emilia T. Boncodin, Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), is a real person, with a very positive view of life and human nature. "Of course I get stereotyped, but I think that's because of the post," she reasons from behind her packed but neat desk at the DBM, a small woman in a cranberry-colored suit with an unexpected twinkle in her eyes. "But that doesn't bother me. Okay *lang yon*. It's the same for most people; you think differently of them from what they really are. I still get surprised when I discover a facet of somebody that I never knew. It can be refreshing."

Thus, her much-reported faith that government officials will still act with transparency and *delicadeza* in these days of rampant corruption. "Yes, it's possible. And I'm not being optimistic or naïve, either. I've seen people volunteer. It's just going back to the discipline we were used to when we were children. I think I am a disciplined person, because that's how it was when I was small. We just have to re-

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Family Values
by Dennis M. Arroyo, *p.4*

Success is a Piece of *Puto*
by Ruel S. De Vera, *p.5*

Put Your Money Where These Experts Say
by Eric S. Caruncho, *p.6*

Emilia

...from page 1

Boncodin is all smiles at her 1998 oath-taking ceremony with FVR at Malacañang

PDI PHOTO

mind people; when we're in a different environment, we forget. Even that very corny word *delicadeza* is so important. It's a basic notion. I am in government, therefore I don't entertain my relatives." But she's not typical, we protest. "I don't agree. And I get mad when people say government people are corrupt, because I know it's not true. It's that adage of one egg reflecting badly on all the eggs in the basket. There are many good eggs, but they are the ones who are silent."

GMA's confirmation of the fiscal crisis has admittedly made Boncodin's job a litle harder. "I find myself explaining things all the time. Not that I hate it, but I had a very peaceful and quiet life out here in the DBM. When this (crisis) came about, and maybe because I'm the one explaining the deficit, I found myself wanted for interviews." It has helped that Boncodin is quite accessible to media; staffers return calls even when she's out of town. "One thing I discovered when I went back to government is that the way to not have enemies is to just take your phone calls. Hold on to your cellphone and answer it. I found it very convenient for immediately erasing any doubts about what your organization is doing, because you can clarify."

Mysterious organization

Before all this, Boncodin says, many people didn't even know there was a DBM. "We were a very mysterious organization. Even the budget is a mystery! That's why people are suspicious of what government does. The budget is a document that we spend hours and hours coming up with. Now we're very transparent. Little by little, the mystery is being unraveled. If that costs me my private life, fine."

The panic generated by GMA's announcement is not exaggerated, however, Boncodin believes. "I expected it. But it's good because people have suddenly awakened to reality. The truth is, we never hid it. Maybe that's why I was reappointed by the President. She chose us to be on the economic team because she didn't want people studying things all over again. So when I took over, I knew what the problem was. Reality sank in when she finally called for sacrifice." So what does that mean for the average Filipino? "He has to save on his electricity, gasoline, water. You really are in a situation where everyone is trying to help—new tax measures, privatization, austerity, rationalization."

There's actually a good part to the tremendous task of budget management, Boncodin says matter-of-factly. "The best part of my job is the fact that you actually decide on policy, on how government resources will be allocated. When I think about it, I realize what a critical job it is. When everyone has a problem they come to me. That's why people think we're very powerful, and that may be so, but I don't think about it. I'd rather worry about being fair, and making sure the right projects are the ones we fund." Such discrimination, she says, is "easier when you don't have much money, not much to go around, so you can pinpoint."

And what would she change about her job? "What I really want is for us to merge with the Department of Finance (DOF), to coordinate the functions of spending and collecting. It's unfair to the DOF, they have the difficult job. It's easy to spend. It would streamline the bureacracy and provide for better coordination. And no, I do not want to take over the DOF. That's *delicadeza*."

Such benchmarks of behavior were part of growing up for Boncodin, the eldest of two daughters born to Esteban, a *hacienda* manager in Iriga, and his wife Cristita; Boncodin's younger sister Adelina is an industrial pharmacist and, like her *ate*, remains unmarried.

Although the girls grew up with plenty of relatives, their father was "a disciplinarian, old school, who believed that if you were a girl, you should be a homemaker. He would just look at you, and you would behave," Boncodin says. "Even after he died when I was in Grade 5, we behaved." In fact, it was only since 1997, during regular reunions of Batch '70 of Iriga High School, that Boncodin renewed and strengthened ties with old classmates. She recounts a funny story from her school days. "It was our periodical exams, and since I was on top of the class, the guys had a *manok* they were fielding to try to beat me. So they plotted to serenade me the night before the exam so I couldn't study!" She does remember telling the boys to go home—and graduating valedictorian anyway.

After her father's death, Cristita put up a dressmaking and tailoring shop to support her girls, and moved the business to Manila where Boncodin went to the University of the Philippines, a university scholar taking up business administration and accountancy. "Maybe she didn't trust me," Boncodin says, laughing. Numbers were not her first love, however. "I had wanted to be a writer. I used to copy the scripts of radio programs, and I wanted to write short stories. My first choice was mass communications, and second was foreign service. But my mother suggested I take business instead, and I learned to like it enough not to shift."

Other gifts

Although she didn't keep any of her early literary oeuvres, Boncodin got a delightful surprise during a birthday celebration five years ago when an old classmate presented her with a poem Boncodin had written as a girl scout in high school, a poem "about nature and the sunrise" that her classmates had memorized and recited. The friend still knew the poem by heart. "That's why I really admire artists and musicians, because those are gifts I will never have," she says almost wistfully.

But Boncodin had other gifts. Even as she grew up dragging her little sister to her beloved movies—"MGM musicals, early James Bond films"—and listening to the music of the Beatles and her favorite band, Herman's Hermits, she was also reading tons of books at the library, relying on the recommendations of the librarian. "I read all the Erle Stanley Gardner mysteries! I liked being able to guess who the killer was. I was thin and sickly, so I was not into sports at all." She would graduate in 1975, place 15th among 8,000 examinees in the CPA exams, and join the DBM in 1979. In 1986, she would complete her Masters in Public Administration at the Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University as an Edward S. Mason fellow.

At Harvard, she became friends with Labor and Employment Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas and Congressman Willie Villarama when she would eat at their apartments, as Boncodin couldn't—and still cannot—cook. "I don't know any housework," she confesses. "But I like to think I'm an organized person. I don't like clutter, I'm always fixing things. My relatives say I'm obsessive-compulsive. Maybe if I were married, I'd be divorced by my husband for fixing things all the time!"

Which brings us to the question: Was marriage ever an option? "I never thought about it. I don't think I intimidate men; maybe it's the post, but personally, I've always been the quiet type, not *sosyal*." Her maternal grandmother was always on her case, Boncodin recalls. "Well, you do think about it sometimes. And I had my crushes on my classmates, but I'm not the type who will make any advances; definitely not. I'm very conservative when it comes to things like that."

She tells us of one DBM staffer who left recently to marry her boyfriend, whom she met when Boncodin sent her on a two-week training course in New Zealand. "That was just two weeks!" Boncodin exclaims. "But she came here to thank me for sending her there. See? That's why I believe in destiny. I don't plan my life; if it's for you, it's for you." Yes, Mr. Right would still be welcome. "My door is not closed, although I don't seek it. I guess if you really fall in love, that's it. And I'm a very romantic person. I cry at movies, my friends are always laughing at me."

This romantic, however, has a no-frills attitude to style. "I have no rituals. I comb my hair in the car from my house in Novaliches to our office in Manila. It used to be a two-hour drive, but thanks to Bayani Fernando, my travel time is much less."

With her sensitive, allergy-prone skin, Boncodin can only wear Johnson's Baby Powder, and was never into makeup. Her mother used to make her clothes, but now Boncodin buys them ready made, or her sister shops for her in Divisoria. Designer duds are a rarity, and only for special occasions. She opts for suits at work and never wears pants in the office. "It's more proper; you never know who your visitor will be." And she attends official functions only when she is required to, preferring the company of friends "who are more my *ka-chika*."

Boncodin still lives with her sister and mother, who will turn 75 next month, and for whom the family is planning a celebration. Her 75th birthday gift? A beauty treatment at the dermatologist! "Oh, we baby her," Boncodin says with obvious fondness for the woman who raised her. "And she is happy just eating out and going back home to Iriga occasionally." Boncodin herself loves Japanese and Filipino food. "Nothing continental," she says. "I want my rice."

High standards

Her working day starts about 9 a.m. and can last for 12 or 13 hours, "but that's true of all secretaries, I'm sure," she adds with a smile. "We have a tough boss." She describes herself as "generally hands-on because I came from the ranks, which is difficult for my staff because I know all the work. I tend to impose my own standards, which is bad. Yes, I think I have high standards, especially if you listen to all their complaints," she says, laughing. But it's a lean, all-female staff of six, which is why, Boncodin admits,, she has had very little exposure to the idea of feminism; being an achiever had less to do with proving a point as a female than simply doing her best, Boncodin says. "The bosses at DBM are all women."

The fact that nobody is asking for her head along with those of other Cabinet secretaries must be one of the greatest testaments to Boncodin's stellar performance. "It's flattering," she admits, "but I guess they know how difficult my job is, so nobody wants it. I always say the budget problem wasn't my fault!"

Life after the DBM will mean teaching again at the National College for Public Administration and Governance at the UP, where she was a professor before being reappointed. "Teaching is something I love to do, even if you don't pay me."

In the meantime, she's keeping heads cool handling the budget of a country that is, by all accounts, in deep financial trouble. "Yes, we will survive, there is hope. We agree that there's a problem, and have crafted several solutions. We just have to agree on the solution, and then we can move forward. But at the end of the day, government must take responsibility for the solution. Somebody will have to give in for the benefit of the many." That, in Emilia Boncodin's book, is good government.

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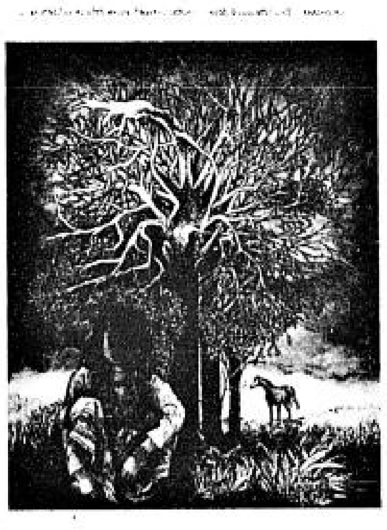


DELACRUZ'S OUTCRIES

Fil Delacruz presents his retrospective exhibit on the Manobos of Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat using a painstaking process called mezzotint in order to coax out images from a metal surface by using burnishers, a scraper, etching needle, hard steel and printing press. Exhibit runs at the Hiraya Gallery, 530 UN Avenue, Ermita, Manila until Oct. 5. Shown in photo is "Dowry VI/X." *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Untitled

between lovers,
space is a brutality

wielding memory like
a double-edged sword

no one can escape
from unscathed.

this is why I close my eyes
when I think of you

and curse the distance
that sends me

crashing hopelessly
into the absence of you.

Nine Suba

Tuyong Salita

Dadamputin natin ang mga nagkalat na salita
at isisilid sa mga garapong nakahilera,
maingat na maingat na parang naghahanda
ng inihahandog na atsara sa mga kakilala.
Pipili tayo ng tiyak at tumpak na panahon:
maliwanag ang paligid, maringal ang araw.
Isa-isa nating ilalatag ang dalayrayan sa bakanteng lunan.
Isasalin natin sa batya ang nag-uumapaw na salita.
Titiyaking malinis ang ating kamay
upang hindi mabulok o masira ang ihahanda.
Babalutan natin ng asin at dinikdik na paminta
ang ibibilad na salita at masuyong ilalagak sa dalayrayan.
Dalawang araw natin itong babantayan
upang hindi tangayin ng aso o daga,
o kaya'y paglaruan ng mga bata.
Atin itong tatakpan nang hindi pamugaran
at pagpistahan ng mga langaw.
Kapag tuyo na ang mga salita,
ilalagak natin ito sa bilao
at ibabalot sa peryodiko.

Ganito nang ganito ang paghahanda
kapag dumadaluyong ang mga salità,
umaalon sa ating kamalayan,
umaapaw sa mga sarili nating pandam
at tayo itong nanghihinayang kung itatapon
at ipapaanod na lamang sa estero't kanal.

Dahil tiyak tayo,
tiyak tayong darating ang panahon ng tagsalat
gaya ng mga kaibigang bisita
na walang paanyaya, ni walang pabatid;
at tayo itong ayaw pumanaw nang nakamulagat.

Eugene Y. Evasco

Straight as an Arrow

Addict Mobile Congratulates UAAP Champion De La Salle

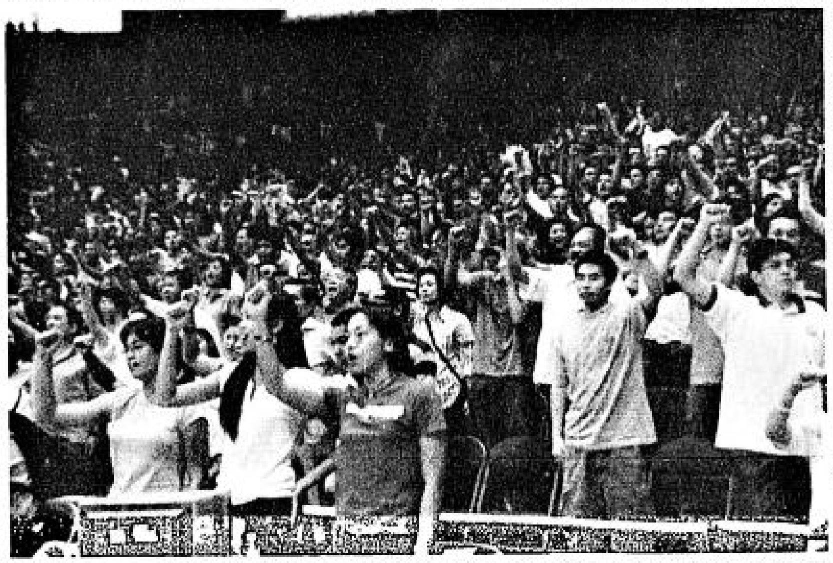
In the end, it was indeed the better team who emerged as the victor. The UAAP's 67th Season once more epitomized the best virtues of college basketball, and the De La Salle University Green Archers returned to the pinnacle as kings of the UAAP. Led by Finals Most Valuable Player Macmac Cardona, and a clutch performance from Jvee Casio, the boys from Taft Avenue proved that championship experience can beat all odds, even the defending champions from last season.

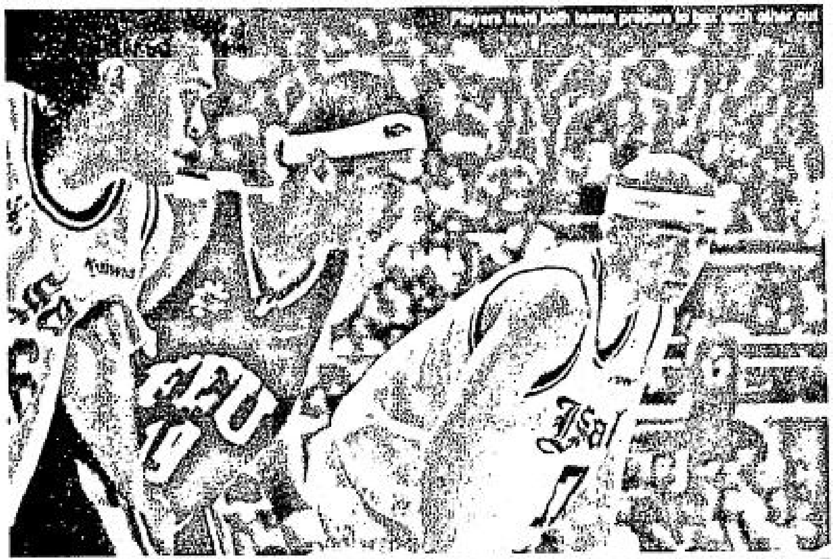
Both Cardona and Casio wore the proud Green and White of La Salle, as well as the red, black, and white of the dynamic brand known as Addict Mobile. With fellow Archers TY Tang, Jerwin Gaco, and Joseph Yeo joining them in Team Addict Mobile, La Salle survived a second game loss to the Tamaraws in the Finals. Gathering their wits and regaining their confidence, the Archers struggled mightily to beat fellow Team Addict Mobile members Arwind Santos, Denok Miranda, Mark Isip, RJ Rizada, and Jeff Chan from FEU.

After struggling with an early 4-4 win-loss card, the Archers went on an unbelievable 9-game winning streak all the way to the Finals. Crushing rivals Ateneo in the Final Four, La Salle thus faced the daunting task of dethroning the defending champion Tamaraws. Clearly the underdogs, Coach Franz Pumaren's charges didn't let a Game 2 loss dishearten them. Instead, they gained strength from each other, and thanks to the incessant cheering from their rabid fans, they seized the trophy via a pulse-pounding 68-65 win.

And thus does the 67th Season of the University Athletics Association of the Philippines end. Where eight teams once stood, only one stands as the undisputed kingpin of the most popular collegiate basketball league in the country. Addict Mobile has brought all the thrills, spills, and non-stop basketball action right into your celfones via MMS and text updates. Addict Mobile now salutes the champions, the De La Salle Green Archers!

All hail the 2004 UAAP Men's Basketball Champions!




Players from both teams prepare to [illegible] each other out

The DLSU Pep Squad pumped up the La Salle crowd

FEU's cheerleaders display their school spirit

League MVP Arwind Santos displays his trophies as part of the Mythical Five and for Defensive Player of the Year

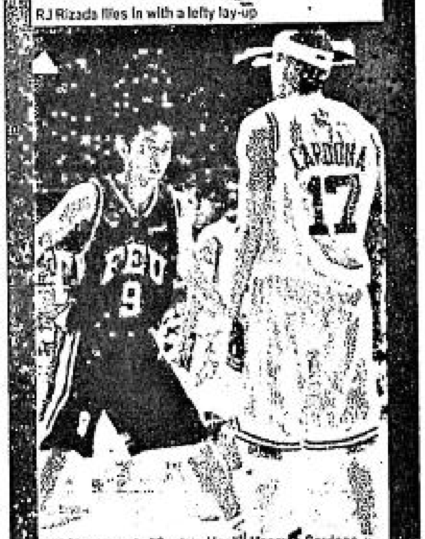
Mark Isip [illegible]

MVP contenders Arwind Santos & Macmac Cardona square off

[illegible] and Mark Isip go for the rebound

Junjun Cabalu drives against Don Yabut

RJ Rizada flies in with a lefty lay-up


Jeff Chan guards "Captain Hook" Macmac Cardona

Former Xavier Stallions TY Tang and Joseph Yeo sing the DLSU Alma Mater Hymn

ADVT

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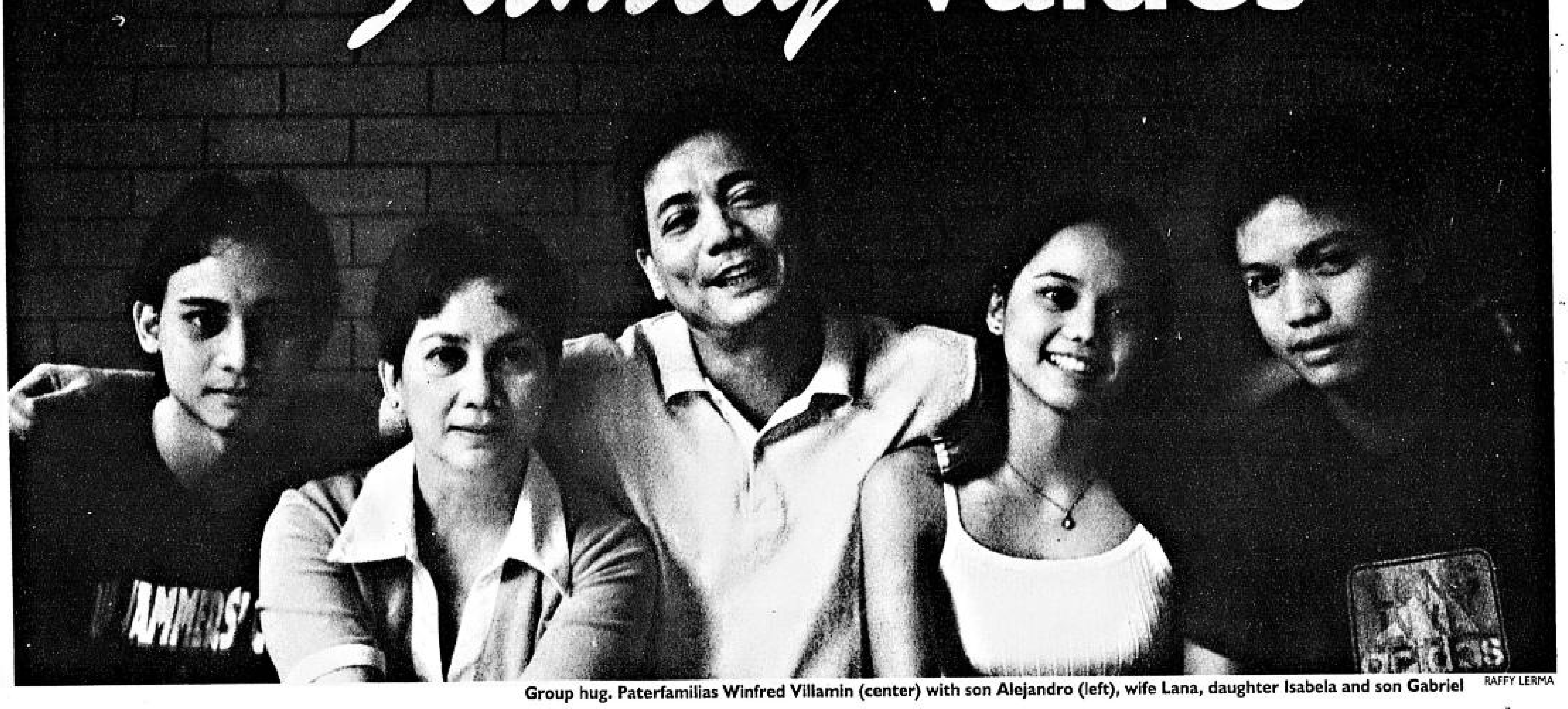
Little Lives

By Dennis M. Arroyo

Filipino families are hit by economic forces they don't understand, but they manage to make ends meet. How do some families thrive? A key plus factor is what economists call 'human capital'—a zeal for study, a love for learning. Here are two case families and what makes them tick

Family Values



Group hug. Paterfamilias Winfred Villamin (center) with son Alejandro (left), wife Lana, daughter Isabela and son Gabriel RAFFY LERMA

THE **VILLAMINS** OF TEACHERS' VILLAGE

They fell in love during the dark days of Martial Law. Winfred was an underground activist of the Kabataang Makabayan. Lorna met him through a mutual friend. He was captured and detained for years, first in Bicutan then in Muntinglupa; she cringes at the memory of prison. They got married soon after his release.

Today, Winfred Villamin is an Associate Professor at the Economics department of De La Salle University. He got his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of the Philippines, Diliman.

His wife Lorna is now a Director for the Philippine Center for Policy Studies, an NGO based at the UP School of Economics. She manages its daily operations, the nitty-gritty of big research projects.

"I have given up smoking and I try to work out regularly," says the slim and bespectacled professor. "At my (middle) age I have to watch my health."

They have three really smart children. The eldest is Alejandro, 22, who shifted to library science at UP Diliman from applied math at UP Los Baños. He's followed by Isabela, 20, also at UP Diliman, taking up industrial engineering. The youngest is Gabriel, a 16-year-old junior at Philippine Science High School. Their respective nicknames are Cookie, Bela and Beng.

Cookie the eldest hasn't left his dinosaur phase. He has a collection of model dinos in his room: "one brontosaurus, one pretending to look like a stegosaurus, two duckbills, and one that thinks he's Godzilla."

A typical day

In a typical work day, the car brings Winfred to the GMA station of the Metro Rail Transit. He gets off at Taft avenue then takes another train to La Salle. The kids carpool to school, and Lorna heads for UP Economics.

"Between you two, who earns more?" asks the Sunday INQUIRER. "Oh, he does," replies the wife, with no hinting wink or trace of irony.

The family owns the house, which Winfred inherited from his parents. The couple shares in the expenses "half-half," and they consult the children on major decisions. They have separate as well as pooled bank accounts, and have invested in trust funds, stocks, and land.

What do their expenses look like? Lorna shares this breakdown:

Food and grocery items—P20,000 a month
Utilities—P8,750
Maids—P10,000
School-related expenses —P30,000 per year
Leisure (movies, dinners out, etc.)—P10,000 per year

The figure for school expenses is low because all three children are scholars.

Bela has a scholarship from the Department of Science and Technology. Beng has free tuition and a book allowance from the Philippine Science High School. And Cookie, being a UP student, is an Iskolar ng Bayan. All three studied at Philippine Science.

So how did the Villamins turn their kids into the sharpest crayons in the box?

No hard sell

"We didn't go hard-sell," says Lorna. "We didn't pressure them to get honors, to land on the Dean's list. It was enough that they do their best."

While they were babies, the couple would read to them books and comics. Today there are many books in the house, but there is no pressure to read. The children collect books on their own. Cookie is into non-fiction, while Bela also likes fiction.

The three enjoy a solid foundation in Math and English from the Community of Learners, where they spent their early education.

"We never told them that TV was bad. But they were encouraged to watch educational shows. They each developed their interests," adds Lorna. Winfred is amazed at how Cookie in particular learns from television. He has developed a phenomenal memory, picking up much from good shows.

Many parents would closely tutor their kids during homework time. Not the Villamins. The children were left on their own; the parents came in only if asked.

"Don't make it stressful," advises Lorna. "We did not tutor them in studying every day. But they were exposed early on to be curious. Remember that learning is not just formal schooling. We just instilled in them curiosity, a love for learning. No hard sell."

Filipino parents may want to learn from this example. A love for learning is something caught, not force-fed.

THE **RAQUIZAS** OF KRUS NA LIGAS

Another "scholar family" is the Raquizas of Krus na Ligas, University of the Philippines, Diliman. In the grand scheme of things, a car accident set the children off into academic flight.

Antonio Raquiza has been working with the post office for almost 19 years. He delivers mail within UP Diliman, while his wife Marcosa sells magazines at the UP Shopping Center. They live in Krus na Ligas, a residential area on campus.

"Our number one priority is education," says *Mang* Tony Raquiza, speaking in Filipino. "That is our main investment because our children will not inherit anything from us except that. So I work double time."

Their youngest children are in grade school: Stella Marie, 11, and Marco, 12. The older kids are scholars.

Joanne, 18, is a junior taking up Mass Communications, a scholar of the Rotary Club of Quezon City. Maricor, 21, was a scholar of the Quezon City Mayor.

The eldest is Antoinette, 22, who led the way in getting scholarships. Hers is an interesting twist of fate.

"Riding my motorcycle, I was bringing Antoinette to school. She was in Grade 3 at that time," says *Mang* Tony. "Then we met an accident near the UP Oblation statue—a car hit us. She got minor head injuries, but I needed stitches."

A fateful accident

His wife adds they were actually on their way to Antoinette's math contest. The car's driver, a UP college student named Sid Barin, rushed them to the hospital.

During his follow-up visits to the family, Sid noticed that the little girl was precocious. Would they consider putting her on a scholarship program? he asked. Sid was an officer of the In-Christ Thrust for University Students (ICTUS). The parents agreed, and the gifted child became the baby of the group, even among her fellow ICTUS scholars.

ICTUS is a Catholic student organization in UP Diliman that serves some 400 poor children. Every week the members tutor and catechize public school kids. They provide basic education for kids in the dumpsites. They give play therapy in the wards for kids sick with cancer. The group raises scholarship money for the brightest children they teach.

So ICTUS transferred Antoinette to a private school, Holy Family, and paid for everything. Years later she graduated from the grade school as 1st Honorable Mention.

ICTUS then gave her a scholarship for high school. Antoinette got honors left and right and finished as Holy Family's Valedictorian.

She passed the UPCAT and studied in UP Diliman. Again the Catholic group supported her financially.

Marie Antoinette Raquiza graduated cum laude from UP, barely missing magna honors. She was inducted into two international honor societies: Phi Kappa Phi and Pi Gamma Mu, both based in the United States. She also got an award for Best Thesis in her Mass Communications course.

Antoinette joined the People's Support call center in Makati. With her skill in English, she rose up the ranks to become a supervisor.

"I get worried about the late hours of her work," says her mother in Filipino. She would commute to the office by taxi very late at night. To remedy the transport problem, Antoinette is renting a place nearer the office with friends.

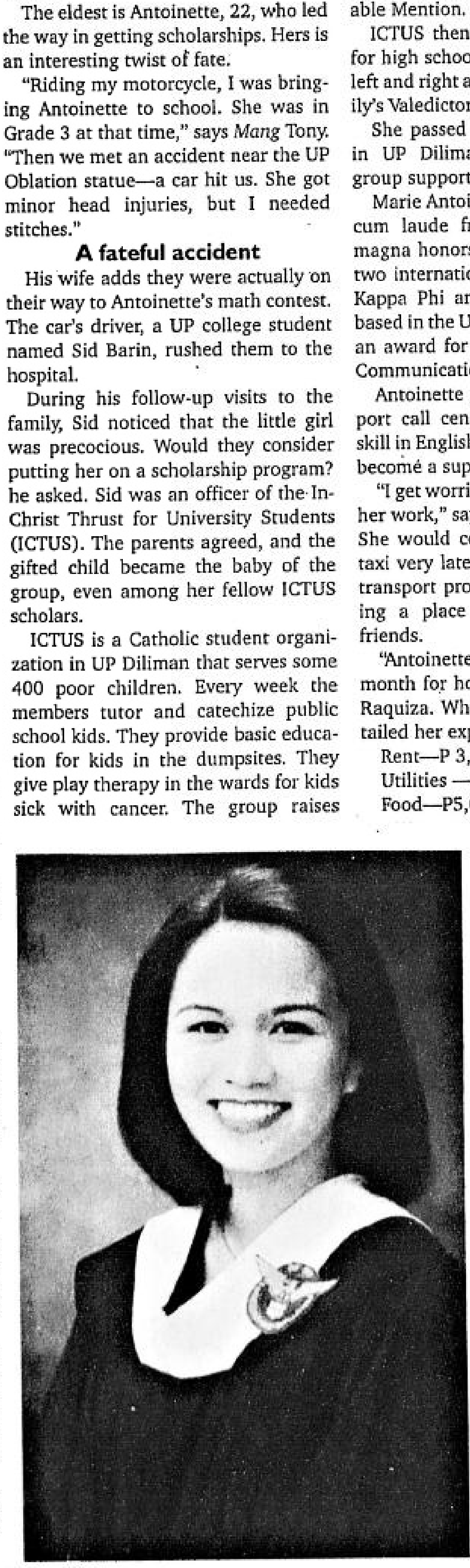
"Antoinette gives me P7,000 per month for house expenses," says Mrs. Raquiza. When asked, the mother detailed her expenditures:

Rent—P 3,500 per month
Utilities —P2,000
Food—P5,000
Tuition —P36,000 per year.

The Raquizas are even paying the tuition of their house help, sisters Roselle and Rosarie Naboya, who have become part of the family.

How much does the missus earn from selling magazines? She replies that she gets a commission of 10 to 20 percent of the sales, but the revenue varies. Her husband helps her during off-hours.

The extra work is all part of the great investment on their prime treasure, well-educated kids. Q



Helping hand. UP cum laude grad Antoinette helps out with her family's household expenses

Businesswatch

By Ruel S. De Vera

Success is a Piece of Puto

Rocha's
Delicious Puto and Kutsinta
MCAG

Sisters Chit Navarro and Ellen Rocha keep the family trade going

ROGER CARPIO

IT'S been a family secret for at least three generations now, and Elenora "Ellen" Toledo Rocha wanted to make sure it stayed that way. Rocha's is a name synonymous with *puto* (rice cakes) in Marikina, those round reddish-brown delicacies not quite as sticky as the usual *kutsinta* and crowned with a wedge of cheese. Though the business is officially called "Rocha's Delicious Puto and Kutsinta," Ellen made her mark with this atypical *puto*.

The beguiling treat has been sold from the same house where it first made its name in 1977. No franchises, no expansion. While there are many imitators, Ellen is pretty sure they've got a leg up on the competition.

That's because only two people know the formula for their standout *puto*, says this 62-year-old proprietor: she and younger sister Concepcion "Chit" Toledo Navarro, 56. Ellen says it will stay that way until it's time to pass it on to the next generation.

Their mother Arcadia Dime Toledo had made a living by making and selling the distinctive *puto* in Polo, Bulacan. Their father businessman Felizardo Toledo died early. The special recipe has been in the Dime family for generations, and Ellen even remembers tales of her grandmother, Marcelina Villegas, making the special *puto* back during Manuel L. Quezon's presidency in the 1940s. "My mother helped out her mother, and I helped out my mother," Ellen says in Filipino on how she learned the art of making their *puto*. "It's still the same formula—only the cheese has been added," Ellen says. "It's been passed down from one generation to another, we've forgotten where it really started."

The family recipe

So the young Ellen and Chit had been surrounded by the magic of *puto* in their early childhood in Polo and were immersed even more when their mother moved to the town of Marikina in Rizal Province in 1952. "My mother came here because she was told no one made *puto* like hers here in Marikina," Rocha remembers.

Originally setting shop in Barangay San Roque, Arcadia Toledo began peddling the family *puto* to immediate success. The wedge of cheese made its first appearance during that time, an innovation of Rocha's mother. "She added it so that it would be different, look different and taste different," Ellen says. The Toledo youngsters, while studying at nearby Roosevelt High School, began to absorb every aspect of the business. Sold under the banner of "Lola's Delicious Puto," the rice cakes were often delivered by the two Toledo youngsters.

Ellen went on to take up BS Education at the Araneta University but didn't finish, electing instead to marry Guillermo Rocha in 1968. She moved out of the family home in San Roque. Deciding to continue working with her mother in San Roque, Chit married Rafael Navarro in 1976 but was widowed in the early 1980s. Arcadia Toledo continued to make her beloved cakes until her death in 1985, at which point, Chit took over. "I ran it and raised my child through *puto*, like my mother did," Chit explains.

In 1977, Ellen decided that it was time she took up the family mantle, but on her own this time. Scouting out a different location, she decided to work from out of a house along E. Mendoza Street in Barangay Sto. Nino, still in Marikina, but far enough from her mother's place to establish her own clientele. Putting her own stamp on the business, she named it after herself, and thus Rocha's Delicious Puto and Kutsinta was born.

It would seem like an unlikely event, but from this nondescript single-story house, with its rusting brown gate and only a small sign identifying the house as "Rocha's," would come a grand opportunity for Ellen. With a tiny capital of P6,000, and pretty much doing everything by herself, Ellen sold the *puto* from their house, taking orders over the phone. She didn't even have her own grinder, only a stove and ingredients. She also had to make sure and cook to order. See, you could never just drop by and buy some *puto*—you had to call ahead and have it made special. Waste not, want not. Back then, you got a box of 100 pieces for P80.

Using her financial sense and a family recipe, Ellen Rocha turned Rocha's Puto into a Marikina staple and a prosperous venture

And with no advertising at all—through sheer word of mouth—the business prospered. It survived martial law and the Asian financial crisis just fine. She's invested in the business carefully, buying a grinder of their own, new equipment, hiring people, even joining the Marikina Culinary Artists Guild and of course, that new storefront. Ellen says there have been times that some of the ingredients had proven difficult to procure, but she has persevered to maintain the same standards of quality that her mother taught her. Besides, she says, "our business is food and you can't go wrong with that."

Food for thought

There's actually some truth in that adage, according to Dennis M. Arroyo, who writes on business and the economy for the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER: "Food is top priority, especially among lower middle class and poor households. Food will thus enjoy solid demand even during downturns." Arroyo notes that family-owned small and medium enterprises such as the Rocha's concern occupy an important place in the Philippine economy. "I recall that more than 90 percent of Filipino enterprises are small, medium and micro. They are important for providing employment as they need much less capital to start. SMEs are terrific for employment," he explains.

Beyond that, Rocha's had become a staple of Marikina life. Together with Johnny's Fried Chicken ("The Fried of Marikina") and Luyong Panciteria, Rocha's formed the trinity of Marikina food favorites. People come from all over to buy their *puto*, as far away as Mandaluyong. Politicians and celebrities would call and order. Cars stop in front of the store at all times of the day.

Thanks to the bounty of *puto*, Ellen and her husband, who works for the Department of Agriculture, has been able to raise and send to school three children: Caroline, a secretary now working in Boston, Michael, an engineer, and Herbert, an accounting graduate.

A thriving concern

In the meantime, Ellen now presides over a thriving concern with four employees, a business that keeps the grinder running every day save for Christmas and New Year's Day. In 2002, Chit closed her own *puto* shop in San Roque and now helps her sister by manning the counter at Rocha's daily. Chit's only daughter Lou, who is 25 and works at the Marikina City Government's Public Information Office, also pitches in when she's free.

And Ellen needs all the help she can get. Rocha's *puto* remains a hot commodity. As a concession to the times and the growing demand, they have built this storefront and do prepared *puto* for walk-in customers. But these go quickly. "We start cooking at 5 in the morning and there are already people asking for it by 6," Ellen explains. "By noon, it's usually all gone." So it's still best to call in your order and then pick it up yourself.

And pick it up they do. Henry Pallaran, who runs a liquor store, drove all the way from Makati City, to pick up some *puto*. "There's really nothing else that tastes like it," he says, adding that people he shares the *puto* with wind up asking where he got it—and Rocha's winds up with more customers. There are even those who buy the *puto* in bulk and resell them. Ellen notes with pride that even the Mayor of Marikina, Marides Fernando, is a regular purveyor of their goods.

The *puto* business is going swimmingly, of course. Today, a box of 100 pieces costs P160, and yet Ellen says they sell some 15,000 pieces on a slow day. "When it's pay day or a weekend," she says, shaking her head and smiling, "we sell so much more."

Ellen herself still oversees every aspect of the business. It's very much still a mom-and-pop operation, with nary a computer in sight. There's just Chit manning the counter and Ellen either watching over the cooking or manning the phone. Ellen and Chit chat up their customers, many of whom are *sukis* for quite some time. True to the business's name, Rocha's does offer *kutsinta*, but only to order, and it's in miniscule quantities compared to the avalanche of *puto* they have to produce, according to Chit.

Playing fair

Whenever she finds the free time, Ellen indulges herself by watching and reading about her favorite interest: American pro wrestling, which explains why World Wrestling Entertainment magazines can be found all over the place. "I like the ones who play fair," she says with a laugh, "like Chris Benoit." Along those lines, Ellen says she intends to keep her prices at the same level so that all her customers will still be able to avail themselves of the family product.

Part of what has enabled Rocha's to endure is the fiscal conservatism that Ellen has employed through the year. That's why she resisted franchising, whether here or abroad, such as one offer to open a branch in Australia, of all places. "It'll be hard if there are Rocha's everywhere," she says. "And it has to stay in the family." She hopes that her youngest son, Herbert, who helps out in the shop when he can, will eventually take over the business. And maybe then she can pass on the secret recipe to him.

One other important decision that Ellen has made is that Rocha's will now and always stay in Marikina, as well as in the family. "Rocha's really is part of Marikina, so it should always be here." ◼

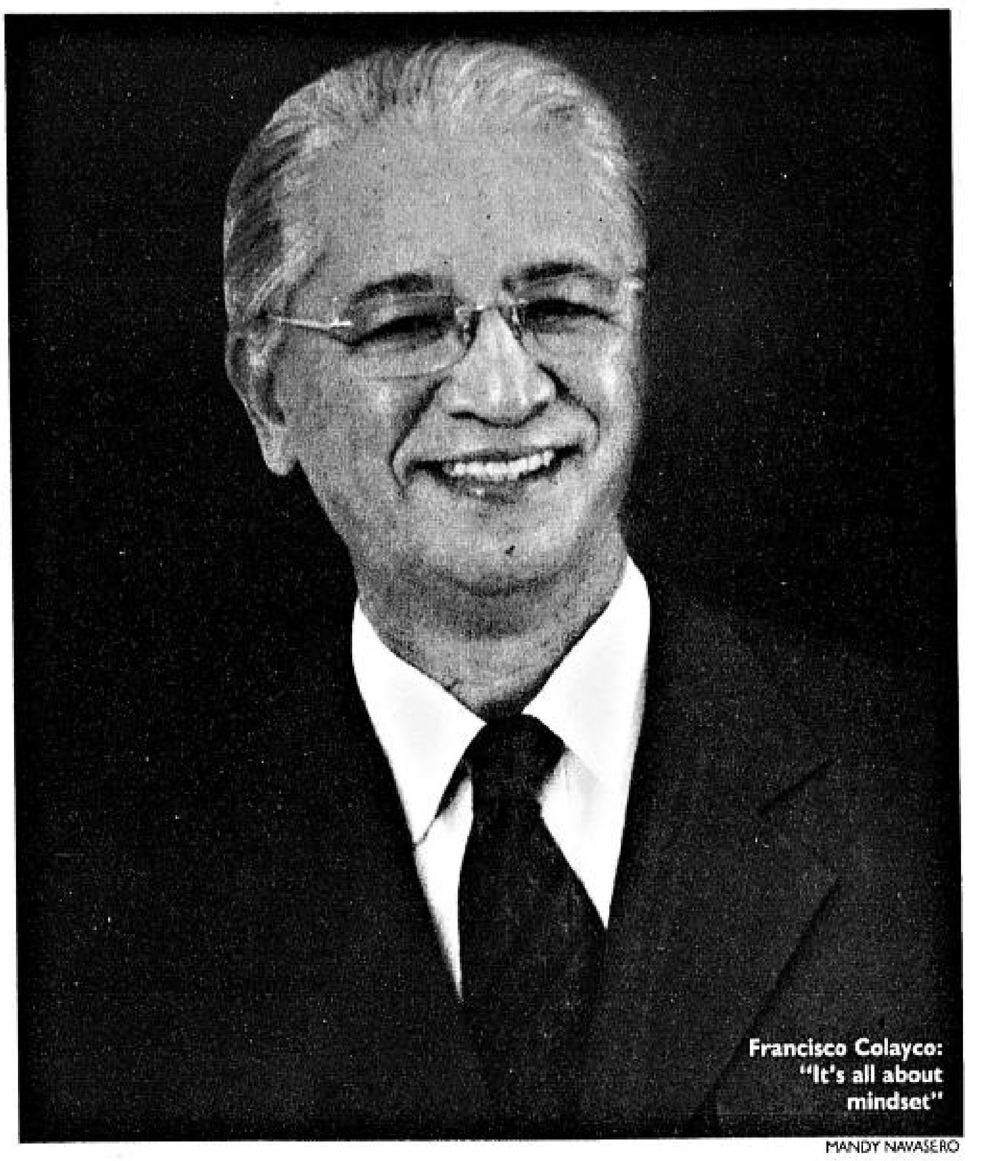
Rocha's Delicious Puto and Kutsinta is located at no. 595, E. Mendoza St., Sto. Nino, Marikina City. For inquiries and orders, please call 941-1519.

Perspective

By Eric S. Caruncho

Put Your Money Where These Experts Say

For financial adviser Francisco Colayco and economist Carlos Ylagan, there's no magic formula to creating wealth. All it takes is good planning, common sense and frugality



Francisco Colayco: "It's all about mindset"

MANDY NAVASERO

HEADLINE: Government worried about fiscal crisis.

Hey, join the club.

Crippling financial insecurity is the state most of us live in: no matter how much we earn, we can barely keep our heads above water.

We'd like to be smart about money, but don't know where to begin.

Besides, everyone knows it takes money to make money, so what's a guy to do if he doesn't have any?

Ask the money men.

"It's not about numbers, it's about mindset," says entrepreneur, management consultant and financial adviser Francisco Colayco. "You can build enough wealth no matter what income level you're in."

An economics and MBA graduate of the Ateneo de Manila University, Colayco worked for several firms, including Procter and Gamble and Sycip, Gorres and Velayo before starting up his own businesses at age 40. In the last few years, however, his major concern has been helping others achieve what he calls "financial literacy."

"It's a personal advocacy," he says. "I want to share with the ordinary Filipino the idea that at whatever income level, you can achieve financial independence."

For the past couple of years, Colayco has been hosting a program called *"Usapang Kabuhayan"* on the Radio Mindanao Network, handing out financial advice to callers, many of whom are overseas Filipino workers.

So overwhelming was the response that he decided to organize a movement called Kalayaan sa Kakapusan (Freedom from Want), whose main aim is to help its members plan for their financial future. Last June, he organized most of the advice he had been handing out into a self-help book titled "Wealth Within Your Reach: *Pera Mo Palaguin Mo!"* (distributed by Anvil Publishing).

Financial literacy

Colayco's advocacy was prompted by his own experiences running his pre-need company. For instance, one of his agents, a gifted salesman, managed to earn P15 million in commissions in one-and-a-half years. Over the next one-and-a-half years, the same agent managed to blow the entire amount on a several cars, a flashy lifestyle and a few bad investments. Colayco realized that while the salesman knew how to make money, he didn't know how to manage it. He lacked financial literacy.

Colayco had also seen some of his friends from the corporate world, capable managers with business degrees, responsible for millions in earnings during their active years, blow their life savings and retirement funds on bad investments.

"I realized soon enough that they did not know how to handle their personal finances," he says. "While all of them were driven by the desire to earn money, it became evident that most, if not all of them, had no real understanding of how to keep and manage money. Except for a select few, not a single one had a clear and specific idea of how much he or she wanted to earn, and for what specific purpose."

Learning from their mistakes, Colayco distilled his own experiences into "Wealth Within Your Reach." He admits that the ideas he presents aren't original, or even new. His main achievement, he says, is adapting these ideas to Philippine conditions.

"Achieving financial independence isn't an option, it's an obligation," he says. "Wealth generation is a lifelong process. It is something that is built over time. It is planned for, periodically adjusted and executed with a firm hand. It needs clarity of thought and vision. It needs you to be financially literate."

Living for the moment

Most people simply do not plan for their future, he says. They spend money as fast as they earn it, invest in schemes without fully considering the risks, and live for the moment with no thought of the morrow. This thoughtless, free-spending, instant gratification attitude, so typical of the Pinoy, is exactly the opposite of the mindset needed to become financially independent.

Financial independence is nothing more than increasing your personal net worth, says Colayco, to the point where your earnings can support the lifestyle you want for yourself. Most people, he adds, don't even know what their personal net worth is.

This is where everyone should start. Next, figure out how much you need to earn to be able to live the kind of life you want. Then map out a plan for getting to that point.

The cornerstone of Colayco's system is "passive" income—earnings generated from savings and investments, as opposed to "active" income—earnings that you have to work for.

"The key to financial independence is to generate enough passive income to cover your lifestyle," he says. "You do not spend your active income except to cover your living expenses, and to expand your passive income."

You should also plan your life so that as you get older, a progressively bigger proportion of your income is passive. Most people start out as wage earners whose only income is active. As they get older, more and more of their income should be passive. By the time they retire, all of their income should be passive.

If, for instance, you figure that you need P50,000 a month to live comfortably, calculate how much you need to save per month to build up the amount of principal that will generate P50,000 in monthly interest by the time you retire. And—here's the tough part—do it. Jesus saves, and so should you. Most people think of savings as what's left of your income after expenses. Usually, that's nothing. To get out of this rut, Colayco advises that you turn the equation around: expenses are what's left of your income after savings. In other words, figure out how much you need to save a month in order to reach your passive income target, then live on what's left.

Optional expenses

"Open your minds," Colayco advises those reluctant to take the leap. "It's not easy, but it's not that hard either. If you think about it, most expenses are optional." If a 20-year-old smoker quit and started saving the P50 a day he spends on cigarettes, says Colayco, he'd have half a million in the bank when he retired at 60, plus interest. And he'd have a better chance of reaching 60, too.

In his book, Colayco sets out "10 Commandments of Financial Freedom," most of which are, when you think about it, common sense: pay yourself first, define your financial target, stop spending on things that decline in value, protect your greatest income-generating asset (yourself), grow with the economy and beat inflation, trust the power of compound interest, assess risks and options, make money work for you, invest and diversify, and use the power of one (strength in numbers).

"You have many options," he says. "For 99 percent of Filipinos, our only assets are our brains, and what we are earning."

If you make use of both, he says, you can become financially independent.

"Attitude is the most important characteristic determining a person's success," agrees economist Carlos Ylagan, a senior manager at the Bank of the Philippine Islands' Asset Management and Trust Group. An economics graduate of De La Salle University, Ylagan was previously with the Far East Bank and the Bancommerce Investment Corporation before joining BPI in 2000. His day-to-day work involves handling the investments of major corporate clients, but Ylagan says most of the principles also apply to personal finances.

True to our free-spending nature, Filipinos have one of the lowest savings rates in Asia, he notes.

"Our savings rate is 15 to 16 percent, compared to other Asian countries which save more than 20 percent."

Partly, this is due to our relatively lower income levels, but attitude also plays a part.

"Filipinos like consumption," he says. "Instant gratification is a common denominator among Pinoys, as opposed to the Confucian trait of postponed gratification which is what gives other countries higher savings rates and higher capacities to invest."

No magic formula

"It's a vicious cycle," he adds. "Low income leads to low savings, which leads to low investments and low productivity."

There's really no shortcut, no magic formula for breaking that cycle, except the same advice that we don't want to hear:

"What's called for is basic financial discipline," says Ylagan. "Spend within your means and save some of your earnings. Postpone instant gratification and consumption in favor of savings and investments. Remember, in times of adversity, cash is king."

The local financial market isn't really that complicated, and learning about it is well within the means of the average salary man. Even if you don't know the difference between bills, bonds or stocks and can't compute your annual income tax without help from an accountant, you can eventually acquire the know-how needed to navigate the financial environment.

Ylagan's advice to the typical small investor: choose a fund manager or investment adviser who can give you a profile of the various investment outlets open to you. Start with your local commercial bank, which should have an investments desk that can field your questions. Learn about the various investment outlets that you can avail yourself of, depending on how much you have to invest: simple savings accounts, time deposits, the various trust and investment management products such as mutual funds, which you can get into for as low as P5,000 and earn more interest than your plain-vanilla savings account.

Overseas Filipinos earning foreign currency should take particular note of dollar savings accounts and trust funds which typically earn more than their peso counterparts.

Playing the stock market isn't really for everyone, he warns. The risks are too high and prices too volatile, although the payoffs can be attractive.

For the ordinary Pinoy, there really aren't any shortcuts—not legal ones, anyway.

"Frugality will always be a virtue," says Ylagan.

ROGER CARPIO

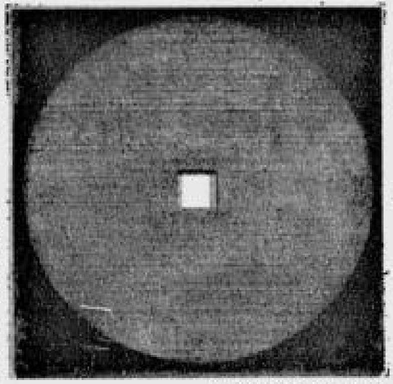
Carlos Ylagan: "Your attitude will determine your success"

This Week

Art

Living Art, an exhibit featuring Gelena's collection, production and conversion of art objects into furniture, until Oct. 9 at Galleria Duemila, The Artwalk, 4/L, SM Megamall A. For details, call 634-3261.

Quiescens, an exhibit of recent works by Antonio Leaño at The Art Center, 4/L, SM Megamall until Oct. 19. For details, call 722-9205.



Antonio Leaño's "081804," on view at the SM Megamall Art Center

Odes to the Triple Goddess, a solo exhibit of still lifes in acrylic, oil pastels, pen and ink and poster colors by Tony Perez at Mag:net Gallery Makati, Paseo de Roxas corner Sedeño Sts., Makati City until Oct. 19. For details, call 817-7895.

Life and Color, Carlos Rocha's exhibit of paintings and sculptures from Oct. 3 to 31 at Nicotina Garden Pavilion, Roxas Boulevard Service Road, Pasay City. For details, call 551-7906 to 07.

Poetic Impressions, a group exhibit by talented mothers who started out as hobbyists under art instructor Pol A. Mesina Jr., opens Oct. 4, 6 p.m. at Le Soufflé Ortigas, 2/F, Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Ruby Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Exhibit runs until Oct. 31.

un wrapped: Australian Fashion and Textile Design, an exhibit exploring the diversity and influences expressed in fashion and textiles developed in collaboration with some of Australia's most extraordinary designers, until Nov. 22 at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Central Bank Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila.

Music

Concert at the Park presents **Treasured Ones: An Afternoon of Musical Extravaganza** featuring Ang Manunugtog Kawayan and D' Unretirable Gems, two groups of musically inclined senior citizens, today at 5 p.m. at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium. Admission is free.

Nyoy Volante and Christian Bautista will be lending support to **Nicole Joy**, an upcoming singer who will be staging her first concert at Dish (The Loop, ABS-CBN) at 9 p.m. Nyoy composed a song, "*Maghihintay*," for Nicole's self-titled debut album and the instrumentation for the revival of "Never Knew Love Like This Before." For ticket inquiries, call 413-0603 or 413-0614.

Chinese-American violinist Linda Wang will be the featured soloist in the second concert of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra's 2004-2005 concert season. Billed, **Windows of Time**, the concert will be held on Oct. 8, 8 p.m. at the CCP's Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo. PPO music director Eugene F. Castillo conducts. For her Manila performance, Wang will perform Leonard Bernstein's "Serenade: After Plato's Symposium" for violin and orchestra. For details, call 832-1125 loc. 1800-1806.

Cinema

pelikula@titusbrandsma presents socially relevant films featuring "I am Cuba" (1964) by Mikhail Kalatozov, "Rabbit-Proof Fence" (2002) by Philip Noyce and "In this World" (2002) by Michael Winterbottom on Oct. 16, 1 p.m. at Titus Brandsma Center, 24 Acacia St., Cubao, Quezon City. For details, call Jofti at 726-6054.

Onstage

Lara Fabregas plays the perplexing character of Carol in Actor's Actors Inc.'s local production of the controversial play, **Oleanna** by David Mamet on Oct. 8 and 9 at Stageworx, Shangri-La Edsa Plaza Mall. The play tells the story of a college professor and his student confronting each other on issues that directly affect each one's survival. For tickets, call 536-5844 or Ticketworld at 891-5610.

Saludo Filipino!, a ballet concert featuring choreographies by Leonor Orosa-Goquinco, National Artist for Dance, and other Filipino choreographers, to be staged on Oct. 10, 5 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Equitable PCI Bank Tower 1, Makati Avenue, Makati City. Featured performers are Dance Concert Company, College of St. Benilde-Filipinescas Dance Company and the Vella C. Damian School of Ballet. Tickets at P300. For details, call 878-4358 to 59.

Dulaang UP presents ***Recoged Esta Voz* (Gather This Voice): The Miguel Hernandez Project** as its third offering for its 29th theater season. The production weaves the words of Spanish poet Miguel Hernandez with songs, dance, film and movement to form a unique theatrical montage. It will open on Oct. 20 at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium, RCBC Building, Makati. The production's regular run will be from Nov. 24 to Dec. 12 at the Wilfredo Ma. Guerrero Theater, 2/F Palma Hall, UP Diliman. For inquiries, call Dulaang UP office at 926-1349 or 920-5301 local 6441.

Lara Fabregas headlines Actor's Actors Inc.'s staging of "Oleanna" at Stageworx

Atbp

Education Tech will be staged back-to-back with Job Fair Philippines and Angono Art Festival from Oct. 6-8 at the Philippine Trade Training Center. Highlights of the fair include a conference, inter-school Techno Wars, a job fair, launching of Convert Your Pet Bottles and Waste Paper into School Tech Equipment Project, special art lesson and Angono art tour. For details, call 651-1749.

For the whole month of October, **Sebastian products** for as low as P350 are available at Fix Bench Salons, First Aid Salons and Piandre Salons.

The College of St. Benilde-Filipinescas Dance Company is among the troupes performing at "Saludo Filipino"

The **United Nations Development Fund for Women Bazaar** will be held on Oct. 16, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Makati Sports Club, L.P. Leviste Street corner Gallardo Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City. This year's bazaar will feature new and unusual items as well as traditional bestsellers from some 115 vendors. Proceeds will go to UNIFEM, a fund specifically set up at the United Nations to improve the status of women and to foster women's empowerment and gender quality. For inquiries, call 810-6703, 687-7254, 844-6981 and 816-6326.

A **Basic Video Production Workshop** will be held on Oct. 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the ACCM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Seminar fee is P1,495 inclusive of snacks, certificate and workbook. For reservations, call 829-5711. Reservations accepted until Oct. 8.

The **Manila Waldorf School** invites parents and guardians to its free **public orientation seminar** on Oct. 9, 8:45 a.m. at 3 Vinzons St., Heroes Hill, Quezon City. The half-day seminar will discuss the distinctive features of Waldorf Education, its history, and the philosophy on which the curriculum is based, among others. For details, call Dinna Quijano at 374-2922 or 414-3709.

The UP Vargas Museum will hold the seminar-workshop **The Registrar is God: Procedures in Documentation and Registration of Museum Collections** from Oct. 25 to 29. The seminar aims to provide participants with the basic training on museum collections registration, documentation and record keeping. For inquiries, call Linda Pabico at 928-1927 and 920-5301 (local 7408) on or before Oct. 15. The number of slots will be limited and participants will be selected to ensure the quality of the seminar. Registration will be on first-come, first-serve basis.

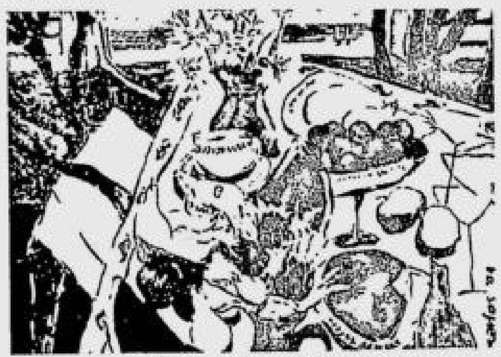
Dr. Florecita de Guzman is conducting **Belly Dancing classes** every Saturday at the UP Vargas Museum, Roxas Avenue, Diliman, QC from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. starting Oct. 16 until Nov. 27 for a total of six sessions. The class shall be limited to 20 students only. For inquiries, contact 928-1927 or 920 5301 loc. 7408.

Marlene Aguilar's latest book, **Encyclopedia of Philippine Art**, will be launched at the Art Plaza, Shangri-La Mall on Oct. 23. Guests of honor will be National Artist Napoleon Abueva, Reps. Imee Marcos and Matt Defensor, Korina Sanchez, ADB's New Zealand board of director Richard Stanley. For copies of the book, call 647-5790.

X-manila

Nineveh Artspace presents two solo exhibits (**Pasiplat** by Fred Orig and **Antibiotics for the Soul** by Roel Salvatierra) and a group exhibit (**Revelation** by Juanito Torres, Raphael Patnubay Pagarigan and Jeremiah Correa) from Oct. 9-24 at 2452 Villa Silangan, Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

The Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs, Inc. will conduct the **2004 Children's Science Interactive Workshop** on Oct. 19-23 at Malagos Garden Resort, Davao City with the theme "GeoExpedition: Experience Earth to the Extreme." CSIW Davao is a series of fun and interactive workshops about earth science for school graders from all over the country. Interested parties may contact PSYSCI at 7B Esteban Abada St., Loyola Heights, QC or call 920-8174 and 920-9561.



Carlos Rocha's "A Setting at Midafternoon," on exhibit at Nicotina Garden Pavilion

The Creative Media Professional Guild of Asia and the Pacific will hold the **Tagaytay Film, Broadcast and Creative Workshops** from Oct. 18-22 at the Development Academy of the Philippines in Tagaytay City. It is open to individuals who dream of making it big in the fields of video production, radio, the print or multimedia. Courses offered are Basic Video Production for Institutional Presentation, Scriptwriting for Audio-Visual Presentations, Producing Entertaining Public Information Programs for Radio, Photoshop, Basic and Portrait Photography, Basic Layouting for Community or Company Newsletter, Corporate Communication Planning and Crisis Management. For details, call 925-1915 to 16.

The Manuel S. Enverga University in Lucena City will stage a production of Tennessee Williams' **The Glass Menagerie** from Oct. 7 to 9, 6 p.m. at the university's AEC Little Theater as part of its English Festival. The play will feature Michael Acyatan, Lorena Elumbaring, Cathy de Luna and Luisit Mendoza III under the direction of R. S. Baldeo. For inquiries, call or text RS at 0921-3357093.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

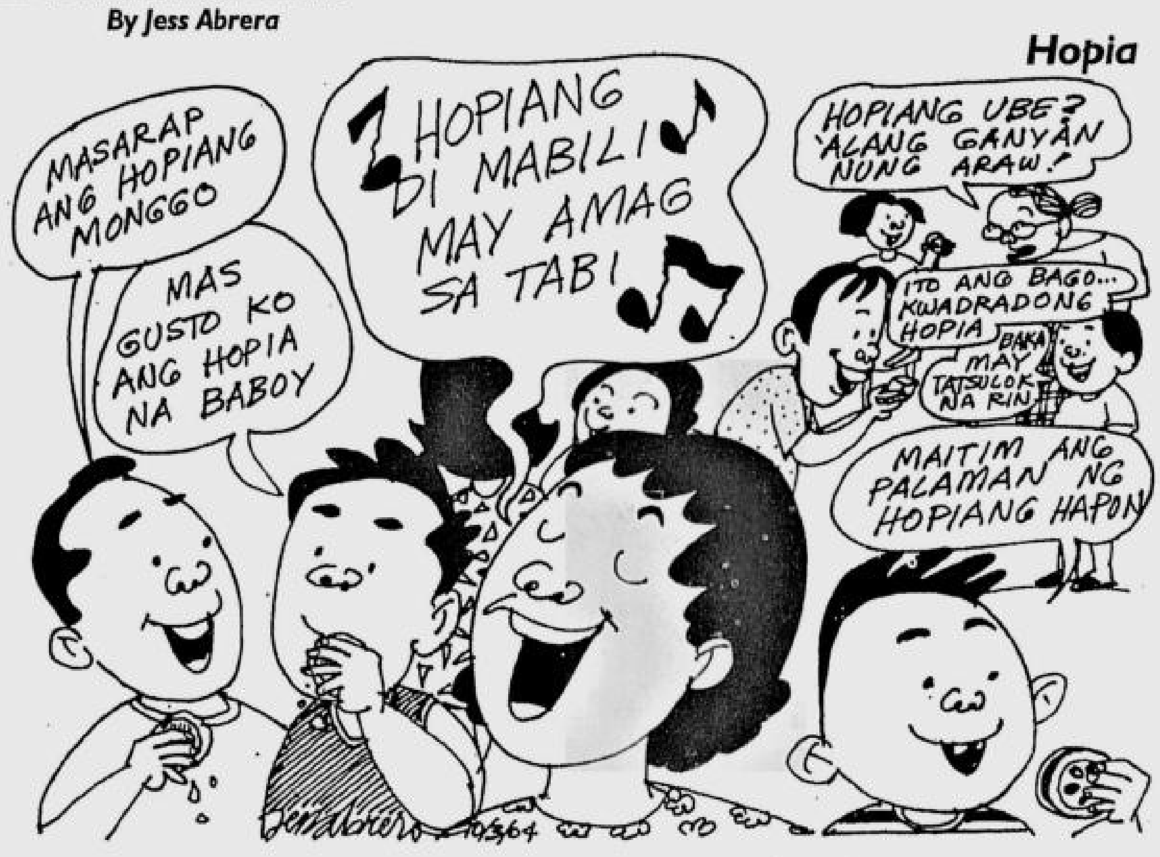
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Hopia


MASARAP ANG HOPIANG MONGGO
MAS GUSTO KO ANG HOPIA NA BABOY
HOPIANG DI MABILI MAY AMAG SA TABI
HOPIANG UBE? 'ALANG GANYAN NUNG ARAW!
ITO ANG BAGO... KWADRADONG HOPIA
BAKA MAY TATSULOK NA RIN
MAITIM ANG PALAMAN NG HOPIANG HAPON

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote

Reflections On the Grassroots Priest

Personal conversion is a basic requirement for Church renewal. Being with God is the first condition for attempting to bring others back to Him

I have met not only lay people and religious sisters from "elitist congregations," but also bishops and priests coming out of their enclaves and reaching out to the "scums of society": in factories and slums, in detention cells, in leprosaria and charity wards, in jungle and mountain missions. I have seen them living among the poor, searching and dialoguing with the people, struggling and celebrating with them, emptying themselves in the process, stripping themselves of all vanity and pride thus bringing about within the Church itself a great spiritual renewal.

When a priest opts to enflesh himself among the poor and oppressed, it is not enough that he remains there like a dead seed fallen on dead soil. He is expected to shake and energize the ground on which he has fallen. He must examine the human condition in the light of the hope that is in him. He must ask painful questions. He must announce the Good News of the Kingdom and at the same time denounce the idols and delusions that prevent the unfolding of the new creation. And for this, he will be called bad names: madman, fool, subversive, etc.

It is possible that the so-called grassroots priest, in his avid desire to identify with the poor and the oppressed, will go among the poor and the oppressed, yes, but with pre-conceived ideas about how things should be, and wanting to liberate them from oppressive structures, he will decide for them what they need, what to think and what to do, and organize the poor and the oppressed into kingdoms for himself. In other words, the so-called grassroots priest can become a little despot himself. For in the process of liberating the oppressed today, he can become the oppressor tomorrow.

Personal conversion therefore is a basic requirement for Church renewal. Being with God is the first condition for attempting to bring others back to Him. Trying to become an agent of social change without first being changed; trying to work for a better world without first trying to work on one's own soul are temptations faced by preachers and reformers in the Church. Scribes and Pharisees in the Church may be expert practitioners of church law but cruelly unreasonable and unfair in treating their employees.

A bishop, for example, who keeps preaching about "participative decision-making" in the Church-as-People-of-God did not even consult the people when he decided to sell church property because, he said, canon law says so. On the other hand, a grassroot priest who says that he loves the poor and the oppressed for the love of Christ now says that he hates everyone who contradicts his views. A fanatic fundamentalist Christian who claims that he is already saved prays for the vengeance of God on the other Christians who do not believe the way he does. An anti-government human rights crusader keeps attacking the establishment saying that everything the government does is wrong and everything he does is right.

Personal conversion means that while we denounce the evils around us, we are invited to denounce the same evils in ourselves—our self-conceit, our close-mindedness, our self-righteousness, our hostility, our hatred.

The grassroots priest is invited to become not only a critic but also a contemplative critic. Contemplative in the sense that he sees in every situation, and in every culture, and on the face of every man, woman and child the so-called logos spermatikos (the seed of the Word), or the inner meaning of God's message, the wisdom of God imminent and operative in the present situation no matter how cruel and unjust; in the present culture no matter how profane and sinful; and on the faces of the poor and oppressed no matter how dirty and ugly. As a contemplative, he freely and joyously enters into the lives of these people and allows himself to be changed and healed by the Spirit dwelling in them.

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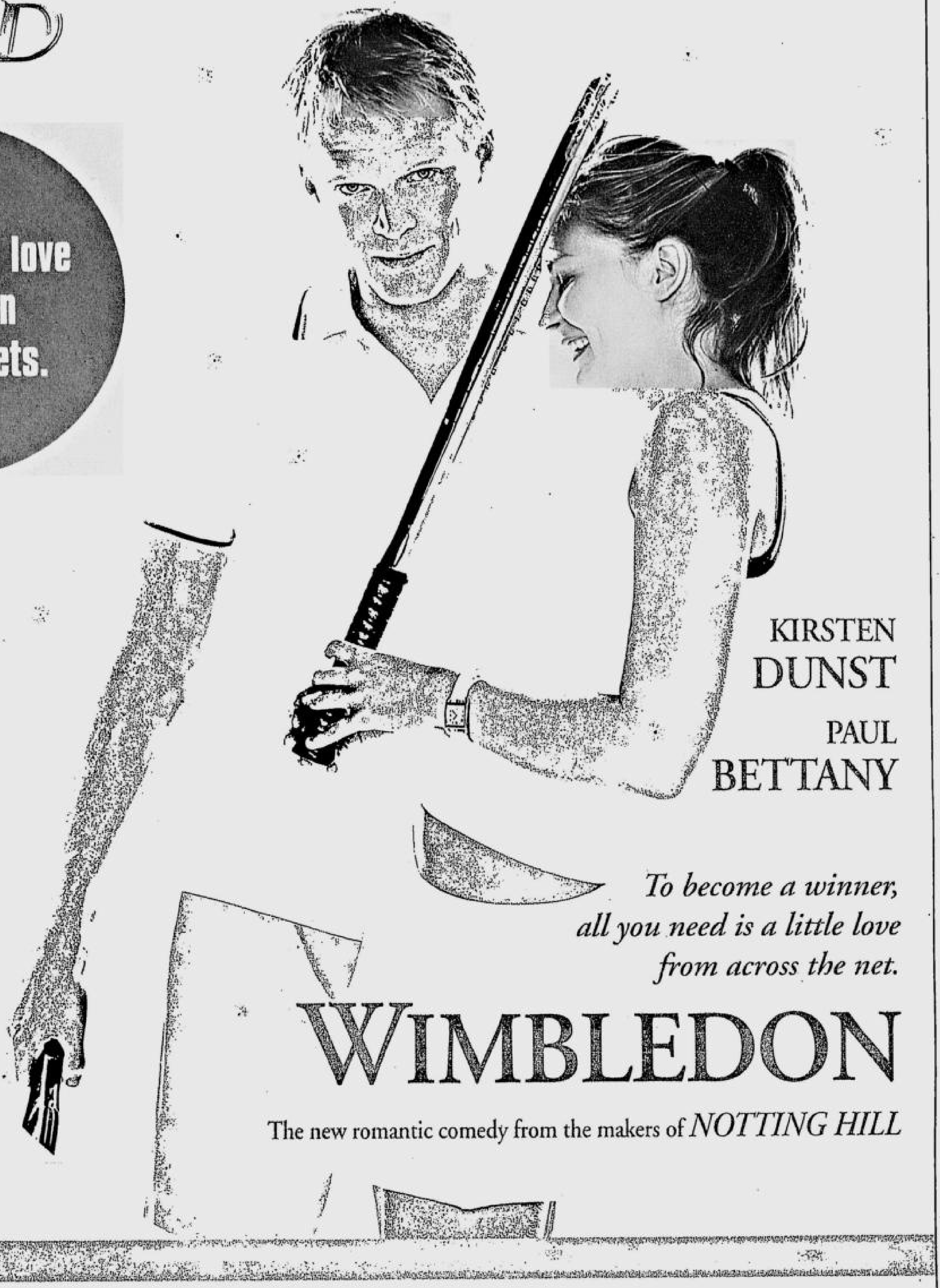

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WMR4	Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic	The Police
WMR5	How Do I Live	Trisha Yearwood
WMR6	After All	Cher
WMR7	You're The Inspiration	Chicago
WMR8	My Girl	The Temptations
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